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Knesset ratifies Washington Declaration

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset yesterday approved the Washington Declaration with Jordan by an overwhelming majority, with 91 votes in favor, three opposed and two abstentions.

By a vote of 77-9, with four abstentions, the Knesset also approved a resolution reaffirming that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, and Israel only.

Originally, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had objected strenuously to such a resolution. However, after the Likud threatened not to support the agreement otherwise, Rabin agreed that the coalition would vote for the opposition-sponsored resolution on Jerusalem.

"We wanted there to be as broad a consensus as possible [for the Jordan agreement]," explained coalition whip Eli Dayan (Labor).

Only the three Moledet MKs voted against the Washington Declaration. Two Likud MKs, Dov Shilansky and David Mena, abstained.

"[I abstained] because they're abandoning the Temple Mount," explained Shilansky, referring to the agreement's acknowledgment of Jordan's "special role" at the Moslem holy places in Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem resolution received negative votes from Hadas, the Democratic Arab Party, two of Labor's Arab MKs, and two Meretz MKs. Three other Meretz MKs and Moledet's Yosef Ba-Gad abstained.

During much of the debate preceding the vote, the plenum was virtually deserted. The debate was stopped several times because no cabinet member was present.

However, turnout was strong for Rabin's opening speech and Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu's reply.

"We are here today to announce to the MKs, to the citizens of Israel and to members of the Jewish people wherever they are, that the state of war between Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has ended," Rabin said.

"The government is placing the Washington agreement before you today, with satisfaction and with not a little pride... The declaration is placed before you in its entirety. There are no secret appendices, no supplements."

He also said that granting Jordan a special role at the holy sites in Jerusalem did not concede Israeli sovereignty.

"United Jerusalem was and will always be the capital of the Israeli people, under Israeli sovereignty," he said. "The coming years will see an expansion of construction in greater Jerusalem..."

"When negotiations on a permanent settlement are conducted, Israel will give a high priority to the historic Jordanian role at [Jerusalem's] holy sites," he continued. "But these words do not suggest any concessions on Jerusalem..."

When the time comes to discuss all the holy sites in the context of an overall permanent settlement... we will of course consult with all the religious Jewish bodies: the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Chief Rabbinate."

This promise was reportedly added at the demand of the NRP, who made it their condition for supporting the agreement.

Netanyahu opened by stressing the Likud's support for the agreement. "In contrast to the impression the left is trying to create, that this nation contains one camp of supporters of peace and one camp of enemies of peace, the opposite is true, and that is proven here," he said. "When Israel progresses towards a safe, stable peace, which doesn't endanger our vital national interests, the entire nation unites behind this step..."

"We support the peace process with Jordan, because it is a good process. We oppose the agreement with the PLO, because it is a bad process. The PLO has not abandoned its desire to destroy the state of Israel. Hussein has no such desire..."

Finally, Netanyahu said, just as a consensus was achieved regarding Jordan, a similar consensus must be achieved on Judea and Samaria, which are "the cradle of the Jewish homeland, the heart of the land of Israel, the protective wall of the state of Israel."

King Hussein pilots plane over Israel

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

ESCORTED by three Israel Air Force F-15 fighter jets, a Royal Jordanian Airlines plane piloted by King Hussein made an unprecedented flight over Israel yesterday, passing low over Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and circling the Temple Mount.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin phoned Hussein in the cockpit of the Lockheed Tristar as it reached Israeli airspace.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said that, although the king did not land this time, "whenever he would like to be will be more than welcome."

Crowds stood outside gazing upward as the king's plane flew low over the two cities.

"Your Majesty, welcome to Israel," Rabin said, informing the king that the Jordan-Israel declaration signed last week in Washington had just been approved by the Knesset by a vote of 91-3.

The king responded: "Prime minister, it is wonderful to hear you and I am very, very happy to learn from you of the welcome that the Washington Declaration has received in the Knesset."

"It's wonderful to be overflying your country for the first time," Hussein, an accomplished pilot, said.

Sitting outside an IDF communications center near Tel Aviv, Rabin told the king he could see his plane pass overhead.

Later Israel Radio relayed Hussein bidding his IAF escorts farewell as he left Israeli airspace. After the air force pilots thanked the monarch for the honor of escorting him, Hussein thanked them as well, saying, "Salaam aleikum, shalom, happy landings."

Hussein also flew over Jericho before entering Jordanian airspace.

Israel closed its airspace to all other flights during the 25 minutes the king flew across the country.

Speaking to reporters on arrival in Amman, Hussein said his flight over Jerusalem was "a very emotional experience." He said he hopes it would lead to a pact on commercial overflights.

The king also implicitly criticized the PLO for feuding about Jordan's role in the city, saying he would visit Jerusalem whenever he desired.

"When I decide to go to Jerusalem, I will do that as a Hashemite, a Moslem, and a Jordanian, and I will not ask permission from anybody. This is my right," Hussein added.

The idea of the king overflying Israel was suggested during his meeting with Rabin in Washington last week. Asked when an aviation accord would be signed with Jordan, a senior official, speaking just moments after the king flew overhead, said, "It is great the king flew over now. We actually did not think an agreement would be reached until October. Maybe his flight will speed things up."

Also yesterday, Israeli and Jordanian crews tore down a section of fence that had divided the two countries, 3.5 km. north of Eilat and Akaba. Work immediately began on a new border crossing, which at first will only be used by third-party nationals.

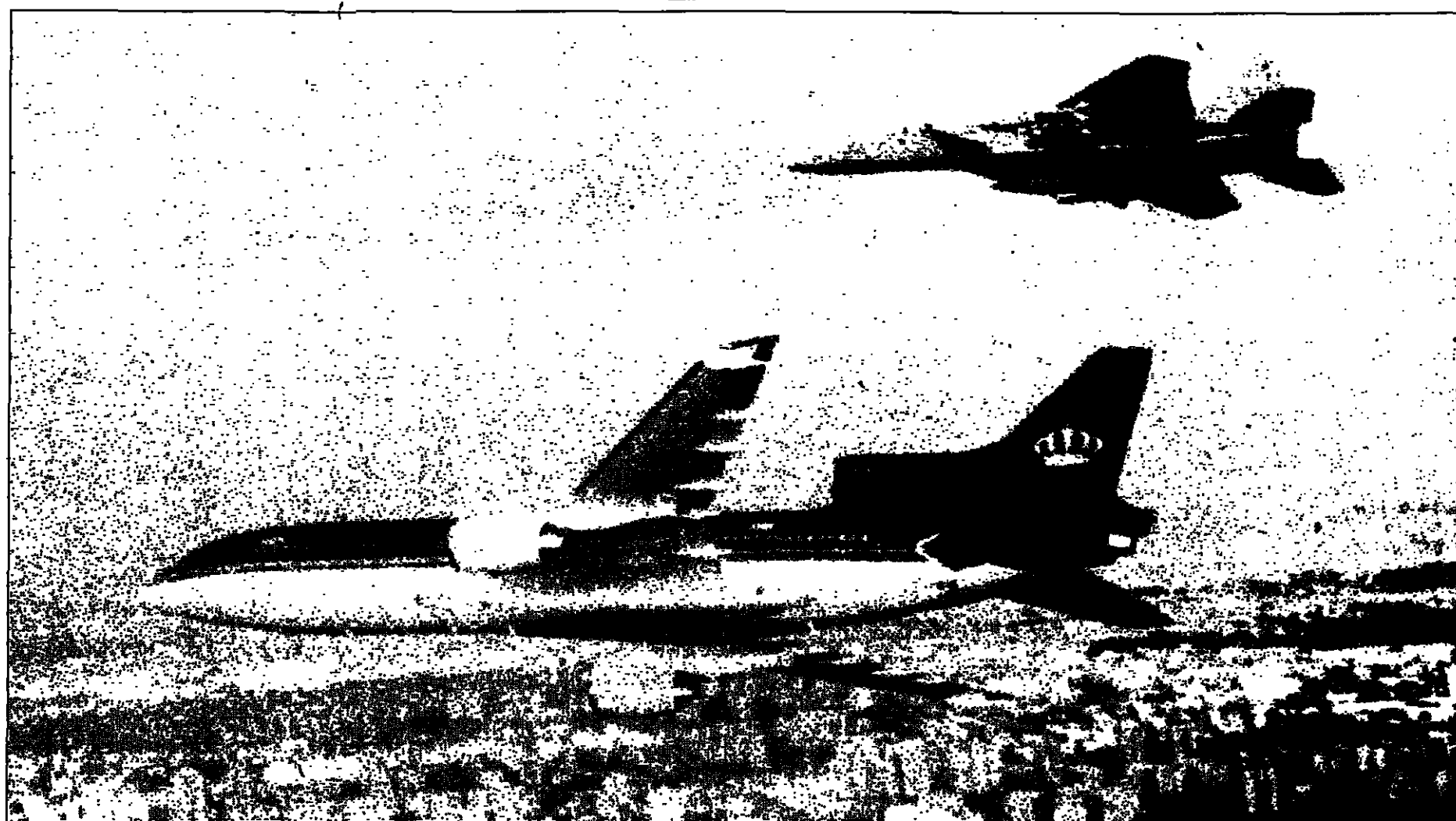
One official said that the location of the border crossing would be temporary. Once relations become firmer, the crossing will move to Eilat and Akaba, he said.

Senior Israeli officials said that Rabin and Hussein will dedicate the new crossing on Monday in the presence of US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is to begin a regional swing this Friday.

He arrives here on Saturday, and is to make two trips to Damascus in a bid to revive the Israel-Syria peace talks.

Rabin said he hopes to meet with Hussein at the ceremony, but this has yet to be finalized.

Senior officials said yesterday it (Continued on Page 2)



King Hussein flies his jet over Tel Aviv yesterday, escorted by one of three IAF F-15s. The pilots parted from the king with the greeting, "Tally ho, and salaam aleikum." The king responded, "Salaam aleikum and shalom and happy landings." (AP)

Jerusalem okays tourism project near Mount

BILL HUTMAN

THE second stage of a controversial tourism project near the Temple Mount that has attracted sharp criticism from Moslem leaders was approved last night by the Jerusalem Municipality.

The project calls for the area in front of the Gihon Spring - today dirty and dilapidated - to be turned into a park. The park is slated to be linked to the north by a promenade past the Zechariah and Absalom's Tombs to Gethsemane, on land the Wakf and Arab residents claim.

About 2.5 dunams (0.6 acres) of land in front of the Gihon Spring - in the City of David section of the village of Silwan - are to be expropriated from Silwan residents for the project.

A storehouse by the spring and another storehouse belonging to a nearby school are to be demolished, according to the plan, which is backed by all council factions except Meretz.

The school itself will eventually be moved, once an alternative site is found, said officials with the East Jerusalem Development Authority, which is coordinating the work.

Wakf officials, however, say the project violates the Declaration of Principles, because it would change the status quo in Jerusalem before the city's future is decided in negotiations.

Mayor Ehud Olmert presented the plan before the council, assisted by former deputy mayor for planning Avraham Kahila (One Jerusalem), who initiated the project. It must be approved by the regional planning council before work can begin.

Authority officials said the final stage of the project, being carried out with the backing of the Tourism Ministry, will include improving vehicle access to the Gihon Spring to the south, through Silwan.

The project will benefit Christians, Moslems, and Jews alike, officials said. For example, they said, Silwan residents who own stores are to be encouraged to cater more to tourists.

The defense industries will require between \$600m. and \$800m. in government assistance in the coming years. Most of next year's aid will go to RAFAEL to pay for the planned reduction in force of 1,000 workers. The government has already spent \$300m. on TAAS-Israel Industries and \$200m. on Israel Aircraft Industries and has a \$260m. obligation to IAI.

Despite the additional income of NIS 1b. that will go to Kupat Holim as a result of the National Health Insurance Law, it will remain with a deficit. The Treasury, however, cannot yet estimate exactly its magnitude, since it will be determined by the basket of health services that will be covered by national health insurance.

The government is planning to begin next year an additional rescue plan for the kibbutzim estimated to cost NIS 5b. All the parties, including the banks, the kibbutzim, and the government are expected to participate, with the government taking up 25% of the burden or NIS 1.25b. The first kibbutz arrangement has already cost NIS 4.6b.

On Sunday, the cabinet is to discuss the budget spending priorities for next year. It will have to decide how to allocate the NIS 1.6b. increase in expenditures. However, since the cabinet agreed yesterday to provide NIS 2.5b. in financial assistance to rescue the defense industry, Kupat Holim Chait, and the kibbutzim, the government will have to cut NIS 900m. from presently budgeted activities.

According to Treasury documents that were provided yesterday to the ministers, the cabinet will have very limited flexibility in changing spending priorities next year. About a third of the budget consists of debt repayments, a second third of social spending, and the remaining third includes defense and other spending. Nevertheless, the Treasury has received requests for additional budgets from every ministry including the Defense Ministry that amounted

roughly to NIS 8b. in additional spending.

he could not respond, unlike "most ministers who have the privilege of saying what they want about taxing the stock market without having an impact on the stock market."

Shohat said the defense budget would not be increased next year, except for a NIS 250m. addition to finance the redeployment of the army in light of the peace agreement with the Palestinians. Despite these changes, next year's budget will still include special intifada funding.

He added that the defense budget would remain at this year's levels adjusted for inflation, but excluding this year's one-time NIS 1.5b. increase. This, however, translates into an actual reduction in the military budget for this year.

Shohat noted that by freezing defense expenditures, the defense burden would continue falling in coming years both in relation to the budget and the GDP.

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Arafat suggests Hussein head confederation

JON IMMANUEL, BILL HUTMAN and news agencies

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday that he had offered Jordan's King Hussein the leadership for life of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

In a telephone interview with the Saudi publication *A-Shark Al-Awsat*, Arafat said he had offered Hussein, in the presence of senior Jordanian officials, "to be leader for life of the confederation that will be established between the two states, Jordan and Palestine, in which there will be two flags and two capitals."

He also said he had "offered King Hussein much more than religious responsibility for Jerusalem."

Arafat did not say when he discussed the matter with Hussein, but said: "The king said afterwards that he agreed, and that the two would have to decide on the details at a later date."

In Nabulus yesterday, hundreds of Fatah supporters of Arafat marched from the casbah with Palestinian flags and placards to protest the Washington Declaration.

Arafat yesterday called for an Arab League meeting to discuss the future of Jerusalem, because of the declaration's recognition of Jordan's existing claims to the Moslem holy places. Arafat has said he considers this a violation of Israel's agreements with the Palestinians not to foreclose Jerusalem's status.

Peace Watch, a group monitoring the Israeli-PLO accord, said yesterday that in signing the Washington Declaration, Israel was not violating its accords with the PLO.

It said Israel had maintained its commitment to conduct negotiations with the Palestinians on the permanent status of Jerusalem, and did not establish Jordan as its

partner for negotiations on this matter in place of the Palestinians.

It said Israel's obligations to Jordan in the declaration will not necessarily affect the negotiations on the final status of Jerusalem, since Jordan was only promised to receive "high priority" in any future negotiations on the permanent status of Jerusalem.

Yasser Abed-Rabbo, who holds the culture portfolio in the Palestinian Authority, made a private visit to Jerusalem yesterday, evidently passing unnoticed through army roadblocks. He visited the Dome of the Rock and the Moslem Quarter of the Old City.

That Abed-Rabbo entered the city unnoticed shows that relative ineffectiveness of the checkpoints between Jerusalem and the territories, security sources said.

Police blamed the lax security at the checkpoints on the army. No comment was available from the IDF Spokesman

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Move in Meretz to unite with Ramon's list

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Meretz Knesset faction chairman MK Ran Cohen is launching a move to unite Meretz with MK Haim Ramon's Ram list, to form a large centrist party to run in the 1996 Knesset elections.

Cohen said, however, that this party would not run a candidate for prime minister if Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin decides to run.

Cohen's move, reflecting the desire of many in Meretz, was triggered by Environment Minister Yossi Sarid's announcement the previous day that he would contend for Meretz's leadership. Cohen said Meretz is now in danger of succumbing to internal rifts, as members "would have to identify themselves either with Sarid or with [incumbent leader Shulamit]

his business, and took pains to behave as though he were still a full-fledged member of the Labor Party, which has expelled him.

Ramon scoffed at the observers trying to analyze his and Sarid's strategies, saying, "I met Sarid yesterday and we both had a good laugh at the expense of those observers."

One Meretz source said that Ramon had no choice but to react this way, because he still "wants to have his cake and eat it too. On the one hand enjoy his status as a member of Labor's Knesset faction, and on the other, to preserve the option of running against it in a separate party in the [1996] elections."

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IDF poll: Settlers humiliate soldiers in territories

ALON PINKAS and HERB KEINON

SOLDIERS serving in the territories have only "moderate motivation" and are frustrated by insulting and humiliating treatment from settlers, according to a poll conducted by the IDF behavioral sciences unit, released yesterday.

The poll, which sampled some 1,000 soldiers throughout the territories, found that soldiers find it difficult to deal with settlers, who frequently intimidate and humiliate them. Soldiers said they are not adequately trained to challenge the problems they face and lack clear open-fire guidelines.

The poll concluded that one of the more prominent factors leading to low morale is the confrontations with settlers, which require soldiers to act as policemen. OC Judea and Samaria Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz convened a meeting of top commanders to study the poll and draw conclusions to improve the situation. Senior commanders said they were not surprised by the results.

"There are two factors which converge to produce this reality," said a General Staff officer in response to the poll. "There is a natural fatigue that erodes soldiers' morale and diminishes motivation, resulting from carrying out police tasks such as escorting settlers' children to drama class. Soldiers feel that this is not what they thought being a paratrooper or a tank commander is about."

"Then there is a minority of extremist settlers who regularly harass, insult, and offend soldiers. They purposely ask to be escorted to synagogue at 3 a.m., or alert patrols knowing that nothing had happened. It is a minority, but all soldiers know them," said the officer.

In response, Aharon Domb, the spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, called upon the IDF to release the full findings of the survey. He said the way it was presented in the media left the false impression settlers are to blame for soldiers' low morale.

Domb said he saw the results of the survey at a recent meeting with OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran and Maj.-Gen. Mofaz. According to Domb, only 11 percent of the 900 soldiers and officers interviewed complained about disrespectful behavior on the part of the settlers. Domb said 20 percent complained about disturbances from the settlers, while 67 percent of the respondents said the settlers obey soldiers and do not cause any problems.

In response to another question, 57 percent of the soldiers said they were treated hospitably by the settlers, Domb said.

Domb also released a letter the council sent to settlers earlier this year calling upon them not to get into confrontations with soldiers.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres listen to the Knesset debate yesterday on the Washington Declaration. (Eilat Kishit)

Aliza Shenhar to be next envoy to Russia

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PROF. Aliza Shenhar, rector of Haifa University, will be Israel's next ambassador to Russia. The appointment was approved yesterday at a meeting of the Foreign Ministry senior appointments committee, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The appointment of Shenhar, an expert on Jewish folklore, gave rise to a recent controversy because she is neither a Russia expert nor a Russian speaker. Officials say Shenhar, who was the personal choice of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, pledged to study Russian for the new assignment.

Other appointments made yesterday were: Gadi Golan, director of foreign assistance program (Mashav) as ambassador to Nigeria; Mordechai Yedid, a diplomat dealing with international organizations, as consul-general in Sydney; Yuval Rotem, a spokesman of Beilin's office, as director of deputy director-general Eitan Bentsur's bureau. Oded Ben-Hur was named director of Foreign Ministry ceremonies.

Hizbullah fires at IDF position in security zone

DAVID RUDGE

SEVERAL Katyusha rockets were fired towards an IDF post near the Hamra crossing point on the northern border of the security zone yesterday morning, according to reports from Lebanon.

Hizbullah, in a statement issued in Beirut, claimed responsibility for the attack, which caused no casualties or damage. Reports from the zone said several mortar rounds exploded near an IDF position near the coast, and that IDF gunners returned fire.

Elsewhere in Lebanon, supporters of PLO rebel Col. Monir Makdah yesterday seized the offices of Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah organization in the Ein el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp on the outskirts of Sidon.

The bloodless takeover was seen as part of a power struggle by former Fatah commander Makdah in the refugee camps near Sidon and Tyre. Makdah broke away from the organization following the signing of the Israel-PLO peace accord in September last year and established his own organization.

Israel, PLO close to settling social issues

ALON PINKAS

ISRAEL and the PLO are nearing agreements on education, health and welfare, three of the five areas of early empowerment set by the Cairo agreement, chief Israeli negotiator Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothchild said yesterday, at the end of another round of talks in Cairo.

The other two areas of early empowerment are tourism and finance. Rothchild, coordinator of government activities in the territories, added that the major impediment to implementing early empowerment is the lack of funding for the powers the Palestinian Authority will assume.

Meanwhile, chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said the PLO may need up to \$40 million from donor nations to finance expected new responsibilities in the West Bank, until it works out a system of taxation.

Shaath also criticized Rothchild's remarks, saying it is not Israel's business to dwell on how the Palestinians will finance the activities. Rothchild and Shaath spoke

after Israeli and PLO officials had three weeks of discussions widening the powers of the Palestinian Authority. The talks continue next week in Cairo. Rothchild said negotiators have worked out a \$30 million budget for the five areas during the first six months.

"We expect there might be a shortfall of \$25 million to \$40 million," Shaath said, adding that donors might be asked to cover the amount in the first six months while a taxation system is developed.

Since the Oslo accord was signed, donor states have pledged \$2.4 billion over the next five years for Palestinian development, but they have insisted the PLO develop a plan for financial accountability before delivering much of the money.

Shaath said he hoped the transfer of power to start August 15, but Rothchild refused to say when negotiations would end.

Israeli Arab security prisoners ask to be freed with Palestinians

JON IMMANUEL, DAVID RUDGE and JOSE ROSENFELD

A GROUP demanding the release of 73 Israeli Arab prisoners jailed for security offenses said yesterday they should be freed with Palestinian prisoners.

Their release was not discussed in negotiations with the PLO because they are Israeli citizens. The prisoners, including 20 serving life sentences, refer to themselves as "the prisoners of 1948" and reject the channels open to Israeli citizens of asking for a presidential pardon, claiming they should be treated like Palestinian security prisoners.

"They played an active role in the fight for the liberation of the Palestinian people and are considered an integral part of the Palestinian nation," said a statement by the "Committees of Democratic Action," which arranged a press conference yesterday in eastern Jerusalem. The organizers appeared to be identified mainly with opponents of the Israel-PLO agreements from the Popular and Democratic Fronts.

The group said there was a precedent for such a release in the prisoner exchange of 1985 when several Israeli Arab prisoners were released along with non-Israelis.

PFLP spokesman Riyad Malki said he was very much disappointed in PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's failure to raise the issue in talks.

Jericho residents went on strike yesterday to protest the firing of a police officer from his job running the municipality, Palestinian sources said. Shops closed for the day. The officer, Munther Irshaid told Reuters he received an order two days ago from the Palestinian leadership to quit his job in helping run the municipality.

He said he believed he was fired because he diverted a water canal from land owned by a Palestinian who used more than his share of water as it passed through.

In other news, Israel and the Palestinian Authority have formed a joint committee to manage the water system in the Gaza Strip.

The establishment of the committee, which is to begin operating in two weeks, was announced at the end of a meeting in Ashkelon yesterday between Water Commissioner Gideon Tsur and Riad Khoury, who is responsible for water affairs for the Palestinian Authority. Tsur described the meeting yesterday as a breakthrough, stressing it was the first time there had been any serious contact between the two sides. He expressed hope that the cooperation would continue and thereby allow proper management of the water system.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade's autonomy committee yesterday met for the first time with its Palestinian counterpart to discuss the mechanics of implementing the trade provisions of the Paris economic agreement. The Israeli delegation, headed by ministry director-general Yossi Snir, provided detailed information about the regulations, standards, laws and procedures that make up Israel's import policy.

HUSSEIN

(Continued from Page One) remains unclear whether another round of peace talks scheduled to start that day at the Dead Sea's Moriah Plaza Hotel would begin as scheduled, or be delayed by the dedication of the border crossing.

Another official said that along with opening the border crossing, Rabin and Hussein would announce the completion of agreements on phone,

postal, and customs links. Christopher will make the first direct telephone call from Israel to Jordan next week, a Communications Ministry spokesman said. A fiber optic cable will eventually be laid from Amman across the Allenby Bridge, he added.

Alon Pinkas and Evelyn Gordon contributed to this report.

The Management and Staff

offer condolences to Jaffa Kiali and her family on the death of her

FATHER ז"ל

In deep sorrow we announce the death of our dearly beloved **Dr. MELVIN STICH ז"ל**

The funeral procession will leave from Serhodie, today, Thursday, at 1:00 p.m. Shiva at 15 Diskin St., apt. 28.

Mourning by:

Wife: Shirley
Daughter: Roberta
Son and daughter-in-law: Dr. Mark and Frances Stich
Brother: Dr. Alfred Stich
Grandchildren: Ronit and Benjamin

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved

Karl (Shlomo) Eppenstein

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, August 4, at 2:30 p.m., at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.

Shiva at the home of the deceased, 60 Shlomo Hamelech St., Tel Aviv.

His son and daughter-in-law, Shimon and Chaviva
His grandchildren, Doron and Yael

The Board of Directors of The Jewish National Fund expresses its heartfelt condolences to

Dr. Samuel I. Cohen, Executive Vice President of JNF of America and his wife Mrs. Mira Cohen on the passing of her revered brother

The Admor Rabbi MOSHE HAGER ז"ל

Scion of the illustrious Viznitz Dynasty
Moshe Rivlin
Chairman of the Board

Shenkar College of Textile Technology and Fashion mourns the death of

Hedy A. Goldstein

Devoted benefactor, founder and chairman of the Swiss Committee for Shenkar College.

David Parnick, Chairman
International Board of Governors
Moshe Golos, Vice Chairman
International Board of Governors
Prof. Amotz Weinberg, President
Shenkar College

The Rabbinical Council of America - Israel Region and our Educational Centers in Israel Yeshivat Hadarom Rehovot and Gan Yavne Youth Village deeply mourn the loss of our Regional Chairman and Chairman of our Yeshivot

Rabbi Mendel Lewittes ז"ל

A leader of profound wisdom and Torah scholarship, he guided our region and our yeshivot with inspiration and dedication. The period of his leadership will serve as a beacon for those who follow.

אשר לא ימות מלבינו

A Sholem memorial service will be held on: Tuesday, August 23, 1994 (15 Elul) at the R.C.A. Center, 18 B'nai B'rith St., Jerusalem, at 4:15 p.m.

The service will be preceded by a shiur at 3:30 p.m. For further details, please call the office: 02-240273, 02-251923

Rabbi Solomon Sharfman
Chairman, Israel Region
Rabbi Reuven Aberman
Chairman, Educational Centers
Rabbinical Council of America

To the Reichmann Family
Our deepest sympathies on the untimely death of

David Reichmann ז"ל

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

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Partners & Staff of
Igal Brightman & Co.

With deep sorrow, we mourn the tragic passing of

DAVID REICHMANN

Chairman of Darcom Ltd.

David blessed us with his vision and spirit.
A leader in the world of telecommunications.
David's dreams for Darcom will be carried on.

Our deepest condolences to
his wife,
children and parents

The Employees of Darcom

To Ralph Reichmann and Family
With you on your sad bereavement
on the sudden passing of

DAVID REICHMANN ז"ל

Negev Ceramics -
The Board and Employees

The Israel - Canada Chamber of
Commerce

mourns the untimely passing of

David Reichmann ז"ל

We express our sincere
condolences to the family on the
untimely passing of

David Reichmann ז"ל

The Management of
The Jerusalem Post

Officials to visit Modi'in again today in attempt to resolve graves dispute

CHIEF Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron and ministers Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, David Liba'i, Amnon Rubinstein and Moshe Shahal are slated to tour Modi'in today to come up with a compromise plan that will allow construction to continue without desecrating graves.

In the meantime, archeologists renewed excavations at the site yesterday, but did not dig at nine sites where burial caves had been discovered. Efrat Orbach, spokeswoman for the Antiquities Authority, said that archeologists found that vandals had sealed three of the burial caves.

Rafi Dayan, an advisor to Bakshi-Doron, said that today's visit is intended to give the ministers an appreciation of the situation on

HERB KEINON

the ground, so that a halachic solution can be found that will preserve the burial caves, but allow for construction of Modi'in.

Excavations at the site were stopped earlier this week by the prime minister, after haredim charged that Jewish graves from the Hasmonean period were being desecrated. The Antiquities Authority maintains that the burial caves there are Christian.

Bakshi-Doron has said there are halachically permissible ways to build on top of graves, but this was dismissed by one Antiquities Authority official, who said the cost is prohibitive. Bakshi-Doron has also suggested that the

buildings slated to be constructed on top of the burial caves be moved a few meters from their original site.

In a related matter, Education Minister Rubinstein reacted angrily to the circulation in the haredi community of a list with the names, addresses, phone numbers and type of car of some 350 archeologists working throughout the country. Rubinstein termed it "despicable" and "an act of incitement."

One Antiquities Authority official said it is "obvious" that the list was given to the haredim by someone working inside the authority.

Orbach said that she is not aware that any of the archeologists were being harassed as a result of the circulation of the list.



Boston Mayor Thomas Menino (left) and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert sign an agreement making official three years of cooperation in helping needy children of both cities. In 1991, the two cities began exchange programs for welfare workers. The focus of the programs has been developing strategies for helping children at risk due to abuse and neglect, a Jerusalem city spokeswoman said. The agreement, signed Tuesday, will also pave the way for Boston to formally adopt the 'Mo'adonim Project,' one of Jerusalem's most successful programs for children at risk, she added. The project involves intensive early morning and after-school programs for disadvantaged children. (Text: Bill Hutman; photo: Brian Hendler)

Police hunting robbers who murdered Jerusalem lawyer

BILL HUTMAN

JERUSALEM police were still searching yesterday for two robbers who shot dead a Jerusalem lawyer in his home on Tuesday.

There were no witnesses to the murder and no one has reported seeing the two assailants flee the Rehavia neighborhood home, according to police sources.

But investigators still believe they have enough good leads from evidence found in the home to find the assailants quickly, the sources added.

The victim, 42-year-old Shmuel Levinson, surprised the two when he returned home at around 9 p.m. A struggle broke out and Levinson was fatally shot once in the stomach.

Levinson managed to call the police's 100 emergency number, telling the dispatcher "I've been shot, come to [Rehavia] Radak No. 2."

Police and Magen David Adom medics found the lawyer lying out-

side the home when they arrived. He apparently went outside looking for help after calling police.

A few hours later, he was pronounced dead at Hadassah-University Hospital at Ein Kerem.

Levinson represented prominent persons such as former inspector-general Ya'acov Termer. Termer said he had spoken with Levinson the day of the murder.

"We agreed that I'd call him back in the evening at home," Termer said. "I called him at about 11 p.m., and a police officer answered the phone. I asked him what happened, and he told me."

Termer declined to comment on speculation that the burglars had come for documents pertaining to his case against Police Minister Moshe Shahal.

Police categorically rejected the speculation, saying that the case clearly involved the attempted robbery of jewelry and cash, and not documents.

Education Ministry introducing AIDS booklet for schools

BATSHEVA TSUR

A BOOKLET on the prevention of AIDS, intended for 7th-12th graders in state schools, has been issued by the Ministry of Education. Entitled *AIDS - A Question of Staying Alive*, the booklet is intended to provide practical instructions for safe sex. The writers, Hava Barne'a and Lea Zippori-Bash, note that "while today's youth are bombarded with information about AIDS... there is a gap between their knowledge and their behavior."

The booklet, which stresses personal responsibility for preventing the disease, does not encourage sex between youngsters, the writers say. It stresses pupils' feelings and personal attitudes towards sex without causing undue anxiety, they say in their foreword.

Specially trained teachers, counselors, and public health nurses will present simulated real-life situations, with the moral of each case being that every person is responsible for his or her own health as well as that of the partner in intercourse. The writers recommend that parents also be involved in the program - both to strengthen their relationship with their children and to enhance their own knowledge.

Court upholds conviction of engineer who used classified IAI material

THE Supreme Court last month rejected the appeal of an aeronautical engineer who had worked for Israel Aircraft Industries and was convicted of using classified material from the Lavi project for work he was doing abroad.

Details of the appeal were only publicized yesterday.

The court did not accept the engineer's claim that his possession of the material was innocent and reasonable. It thus upheld the decision of the Tel Aviv District Court, which sentenced him to three months' community service and ordered him to pay IAI NIS 10,000 in damages.

The engineer, whose name cannot be published, worked for IAI from 1975-1988. In 1988, he began working on the Lavi project and had access to its classified data.

During his employment at IAI,

he was twice required to sign commitments promising not to remove documents from the plant without permission from authorized IAI officials. Before he left IAI, he had to sign another declaration that he no longer had any material from IAI in his possession.

After the Lavi project was canceled and the engineer was fired, he was hired to work at a company abroad. For his new job, he used material he had retained from his stint at IAI, but cut out or erased all indications that the material was classified or belonged to IAI.

His attorneys claimed that since the Lavi project was canceled, the material could no longer be considered secret. But the court ruled that the appellant had signed a commitment that he was no longer holding any such material, and had retained the material in violation of this declaration. (Itm)

B-G Airport gets drug-sniffing dog

RAINE MARCUS

SMUGGLERS intending to bring drugs here should watch out for Bart, a Labrador retriever now on duty at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Bart is the first of a specially trained canine unit being used by airport police to crack down on drug smugglers. If the unit proves effective, police intend to use drug-sniffing dogs at all border crossings.

Recently, Morris Berkovitz, a US customs official and specialist in the use of drug-sniffing dogs, visited here and police decided to

adopt his methods. The project was funded by the War on Drugs Authority.

Bart, who is valued at around \$5,000 and who was donated by the US authorities, last week discovered a small amount of hashish hidden on a French tourist.

But Supt. Sasson Bar said the number of smugglers caught this year is already up 700% from last year. A British citizen was recently caught with 2,600 LSD squares and 200 Ecstasy pills meant for sale in the Tel Aviv area, said Bar.

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Police urge care as 10 bathers drown in a week

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE yesterday urged bathers to exercise greater care and responsibility after the bodies of two missing swimmers were recovered from the sea in the north yesterday.

The discovery of the bodies brought to 10 the number of people who have drowned along the Mediterranean coast and, in one case, in Lake Kinneret, in less than a week.

In another accident yesterday, a 15-year-old boy drowned in the Nahal Yehudia pool on the Golan. Rescue teams pulled the teenager from the water and tried to resuscitate him, but he died while en route to hospital.

"We are calling on people only to go to those beaches where swimming is permitted and where lifeguards are on duty," said Sarina Yehuda, a police spokesman.

The body of 13-year-old Madiha Bariya, of Fureidis village, south of Haifa, was discovered jammed under an underwater ledge of the Habonim beach yesterday following lengthy searches.

The other body, which washed ashore near the Aqueduct beach near Caesarea, was identified as that of Salah Masalah, 25, of Nazareth. Both went missing on Monday - the same day another man drowned at the Nofshonit beach. Six other people drowned in swimming and boating accidents last weekend.

Suspects in two sexual assaults remanded

RAINE MARCUS

A TEL AVIV man, 22, suspected of raping and sexually assaulting his 15-year-old cousin, was remanded for six days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The girl complained to police after she was allegedly raped at her cousin's home. She said she was too frightened in the past to file a complaint, but that she had told her mother her cousin had repeatedly assaulted her over a five-year period, usually at his parents' home in Tel Aviv.

The latest rape allegedly occurred at the end of July, but the next day she traveled with her cousin to Tiberias. She told police she agreed to go with him, because his girlfriend was accompanying them.

The suspect, whose name was banned for publication, said the girl had invented all the alleged incidents, but had fallen in love with him.

"Sexual assaults did not take place," he told the court. "If she was so scared, why did she agree to go with me to Tiberias the day after she said she was raped?"

Judge Dan Gabai ruled that police have evidence supporting the allegations and ordered his remand.

In another case in the same court yesterday, a 24-year-old man was remanded for six days for allegedly beating and sexually assaulting his two-year-old daughter.

The toddler's nursery school teacher noticed unusual bruises on the child's body and reported this to police. The child was taken to the hospital by a court order, but the father managed to abduct her from there, the court heard.

The man, a known drug abuser, was arrested and the child taken back to the hospital. He denied beating his daughter, and told police she had fallen from her bed.

Judge: Prostitute's testimony may be false

RAINE MARCUS

THREE men suspected of raping a Tel Aviv prostitute were placed under house arrest by the city's district court yesterday, after Judge Amnon Straschnov ruled that the woman's testimony may be false.

The woman had complained to police that as she was walking down the city's Ben-Yehuda Street during the early hours of the morning last month, she was dragged into an apartment by a stranger.

There she said she was gang raped twice and sodomized by Constantine Tzukurman, 45, Michael Tzukurman, 19, and Alexander Metuzay, 19, and was threatened with a pistol, which later proved to be a dummy.

The men were arrested and remanded by a magistrate's court judge.

But when the prosecution requested their remand until trial, Straschnov ruled that her statement to police was strange and inconsistent.

"The complainant said she was badly beaten by the three suspects, but there were no signs of bruising on her body," said Straschnov. "Only slight bite marks were actually showing on her body - and these could have been inflicted during sexual intercourse."

He also said he found it strange that she did not scream when she was abducted, or ask for help from neighbors in the building where she raped.

Arab councils explain plight to foreign envoys

DAVID RUDGE

STRIKING Arab local council heads yesterday began a series of planned meetings with staff of foreign embassies in an effort to put pressure on the government to bail out their financially crippled local authorities.

Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the forum of Arab Council Heads, said delegates had met with officials at the EU and Swiss embassies in Tel Aviv, where they had outlined the plight of the Arab councils.

Suleiman, who is also head of Masha'had local council near Nazareth, said they intended to make similar visits to the American, British and French embassies, as well as raise the matter at UN offices in Geneva.

The council leaders, who have been on strike for over two weeks, are pressing the government to consolidate debts totaling NIS 200 million as well as drastically increase regular and development budgets to bring them in line with allocations given to Jewish local authorities.

The Interior Ministry stressed, however, that additional funds had already been allocated to the 53 Arab councils in an agreement signed with the council leaders just two months ago, and that all aspects of the accord were being fulfilled.

The council heads, for their part, had failed to honor commitments to increase income by enforcing the collection of municipal taxes, the ministry said.

Meanwhile, another protest tent has been pitched alongside that of the council heads, opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. It is manned by representatives of eight Arab villages in the Triangle who are pressing the Interior Ministry to change the appointed regional council for their area.

Ridda Agbariya, spokesman for the group, said that if the council remained, there should be elections soon so the residents themselves would have their own representatives. All the land around the villages should be incorporated into the jurisdiction of the regional authority, he added. He maintained that at present the land in question came under the municipal jurisdiction of Meggido and Menashe regional councils.

Bezek closes Haifa communications station

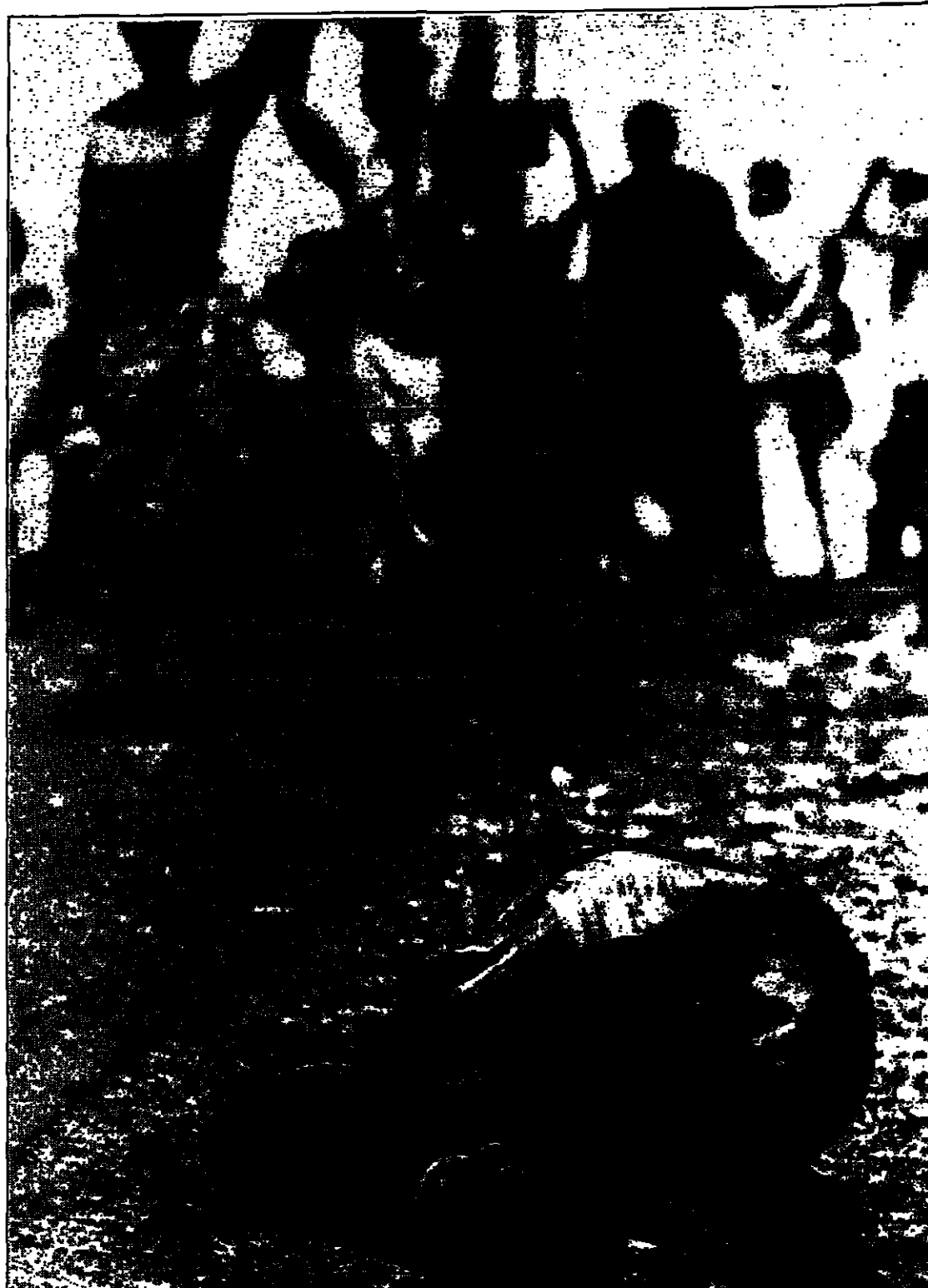
JUDY SIEGEL and HAIM SHAPIRO

BEZEK closed its emergency communications station on Haifa's coast Tuesday night, after the Transport Ministry failed to come through with promised financial support.

Bezek, which was asked two weeks ago by Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar to postpone closure, said it could not continue to subsidize the station.

Kessar had promised to find funds in order to keep open the station, which has, for 40 years, provided rescue services to the Defense and Transport ministries and thousands of publicly and privately owned vessels. Bezek said it lost NIS 7 million a year on maintaining the station, and could no longer subsidize a losing operation.

A total of 21 staffers kept the station running, in addition to 13 others who supplied transmission services.



A Hutu refugee woman collapses at the side of the road in the Kibumba refugee camp, near Goma, Zaire.

One million Rwandan refugees refusing to return home

GOMA (AP) - Despite the death and misery in their wretched camps in eastern Zaire, nearly 1 million fearful refugees are ignoring UN pleas to return to Rwanda.

Officials of the UN refugee agency met with elders and community leaders among the refugees Tuesday in an attempt to get them to persuade their people to return to their farms and homes.

"It was very unsuccessful," Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said yesterday. "It's going to be a massive effort to convince them."

Wilkinson said an estimated 22,000 refugees from the camps near Goma had returned to Rwanda through official border crossing points. Up to 90,000 may have returned through the bush, he added.

But that is a small fraction of the hundreds of thousands packed in squalor in the camps and dying by the hundreds every day of cholera, dysentery and other diseases.

Maj. Gen. Romeo Dallaire, commander of UN forces in Rwanda, speaking yesterday in Kigali, the capital, said the returning refugees have slowed to a trickle.

Most of the refugees are Hutus, the ethnic majority, who fled Rwanda in fear of retribution from a Tutsi-led rebel army for the slaughter of at least 350,000 people, mainly Tutsis, from April to July. The United Nations and human rights groups blame the massacres on the Rwandan army and civilian militias guided by extremist Hutu politicians.

No reports have surfaced of large-scale revenge killings by the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front, which has established a new government in the capital of Kigali. It has repeatedly said innocent Hutus have nothing to fear in returning home.

But remnants of the defeated Rwandan army and a number of Hutu politicians are actively spreading rumors in the Zairian camps, telling the refugees that the Tutsis will gouge out their eyes and slit open their bellies if they recross the border.

The fictions, said Wilkinson, are stronger than truth.

Wilkinson said he hoped his agency would be able to take some elders and community leaders back across the border on a tour to prove to them that it is safe for their people to return.

Russia wages war of nerves in Chechnya

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia waged a war of nerves against the rebel leader of the breakaway republic of Chechnya yesterday, apparently hoping to topple President Dzhokhar Dudayev without using force.

Reports from Grozny, the capital of the north Caucasus republic, said it was calm and still in Dudayev's hands despite an announcement by his Moscow-backed opponents on Tuesday that he had been ousted.

The Kremlin, whose patience with Dudayev's self-proclaimed independence snapped last week after a hostage seizure by Chechen gangsters in southern Russia, has said it will not send in troops to remove him.

But it swung its full weight behind the self-styled Provisional Council of Chechnya, whose decree assuming power was given pride of place in the official Moscow media.

The Council, headed by Umar Avtorokhanov, yesterday announced the appointment of a new chief prosecutor in the republic, with instructions to "restore constitutional order" and ensure the security of all citizens. Itar-Tass news agency reported.

Russia's reluctance to risk direct military intervention in Chechnya is largely motivated by the failure of a bungled attempt to send troops there in November 1991, shortly after Dudayev proclaimed independence.

Other influential figures in the region, including Musa Shanibov, head of the unofficial Confederation of Peoples of the Caucasus, have told the Kremlin direct military intervention could touch off a general war involving other ethnic groups.

However Postfactum news agency said Dudayev convened a meeting of his top military and security officials yesterday to discuss a reported buildup of Russian army and interior ministry troops on Chechnya's borders.

Russia's defense ministry denied reports that the defense minister, Pavel Grachev, had broken off his holiday to deal with the crisis. It also denied the reports of troop movements.

Tass quoted one top Russian policymaker, who was not named, as forecasting a stalemate between Dudayev and his foes, who control some areas of the republic.

UN vows to stop Serbs raiding arms depots

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The UN commander in Bosnia has threatened to call in NATO air strikes if necessary to prevent rebel Serbs from grabbing back heavy weapons at UN-guarded compounds, UN officials said yesterday.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, in charge of UN peacekeepers in Bosnia, responded toughly after the Serbs gave notice they would raid three UN collection depots inside Sarajevo's NATO-enforced weapons-exclusion zone.

Ten Serb militiamen tried to break into a fourth site early yesterday to grab four mortars but were repelled by French UN soldiers, a UN spokesman said.

"(Local Serb commanders) told us this was an individual initiative of young soldiers," Major Rob Annik told reporters.

The Serbs' brusque bid to regain their heavy weapons was the latest episode in a war of nerves with UNFOR against a backdrop of intense Western pressure on them to yield territory for a peace plan.

"We received a letter from the BSA (Bosnian Serb Army) telling us they intended to take heavy weapons out of collection points at Ilidza, Vogosca and Hadzici," UN civilian spokeswoman Claire Grimes said.

The Serbs say they need the weapons to counter offensives by Muslim government troops on Serb areas around Visoko and Vares north of the 20 km zone around Sarajevo where large-caliber guns are banned.

Rose went quickly to Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic in Sarajevo and urged him to cease any offensive but also told the Serbs they could not take back weapons without extraordinary, high-level UN approval.

Grimes said the Serbs could not legally remove any of the tanks, artillery, mortars and anti-aircraft guns from the nine compounds even if they wanted to use them outside Sarajevo's exclusion zone.

Five French nationals shot dead in Algeria

MARIE-BENEDICTE ALLAIRE
PARIS

FIVE French nationals were shot dead when Muslim terrorists attacked the French embassy's main housing complex in suburban Algiers yesterday in their boldest assault on foreigners so far.

Defense Minister Francois Leotard said gunmen opened fire as they tried to drive a car-bomb into the heavily-guarded complex where most of the remaining French embassy staff live, killing three paramilitary gendarmes and two embassy officials.

The bomb was defused in time to prevent a major disaster at the complex in a southwest district of Algiers, where more than 70 French nationals live amid tight security.

The deaths took to 15 the number of French killed in Algeria since radical terrorists of the Islamic Armed Group (GIA) began targeting foreigners last year.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said a sixth French national, a gendarme, was wounded. Leotard said it happened as the guard was changing, suggesting a carefully-planned operation.

The Algerian news agency APS said the attack was carried out outside a French school by "terrorists." Leotard said he and Foreign Minister Alain Juppe would fly to Algiers to offer condolences to relatives of the victims.

All non-essential personnel would be withdrawn, in addition to spouses and children who have already returned to France, but Leotard rejected the idea of evacuating all French nationals.

A Foreign Ministry statement said: "France condemns this new barbarian act against the very people it had decided to keep in Algeria to ensure its presence."

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur held a crisis meeting on the attack with Juppe, Leotard and Interior Minister Charles Pasqua.

The statement said France was tightening security for its staff in Algeria and asked the Algerian government to step up protection of French nationals and hunt down those responsible for the attack.

Algerian Interior Minister Abderrahmane Meziane Chahed said in a statement that the government "condemned this act vigorously...this odious attack...and vowed to do everything to eliminate terrorism and restore order."

At least 54 foreigners have been killed in Algeria since the army-backed authorities cancelled a general election in January 1992, which the since-outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.

The violence has claimed at least 4,000 lives, mostly security forces and Islamic militants.

A large part of the French community has already returned home for fear of attacks. The Foreign Ministry earlier this year said some 2,000 French nationals remained in Algeria, a figure not including a large number of people with both French and Algerian citizenship.

The GIA attacks foreigners and Algerian intellectuals because they draw more media attention, isolate Algeria internationally and terrorise secular forces in society, experts say.

France is a privileged target as the former colonial power in the North African state and because it has vociferously supported the Algerian government, politically and economically, since the elections were scrapped and has publicly opposed allowing the fundamentalists to come to power.

Federal charges expected in Crown Heights killing

SUE FISHKOFF
NEW YORK

TWO years after a black Crown Heights teenager was acquitted of the 1991 mob slaying of yeshiva student Yankel Rosenbaum, federal prosecutors are reportedly now looking to indict that same individual, Lemrick Nelson, Jr., on new charges of violating Rosenbaum's civil rights.

Sources say the indictment could come in a matter of weeks. It is not known when the case might come to trial.

According to the New York Post, federal prosecutors who took over the investigation into the Rosenbaum murder earlier this year have formally requested the Justice Department for permission to indict Nelson on civil rights charges.

Since his October 1992 acquittal on murder charges, this is the only way Nelson, 18, can still face charges in the Rosenbaum killing. Justice Department prosecutors used the same method last year to indict three white Los Angeles police officers after an all-white jury acquitted them of beating a black man, Rodney King.

Rosenbaum died of stab wounds on August 19, 1991, after a mob of black teens surrounded him on the streets of Crown Heights, shouting "Kill the Jew."

Attorney General Janet Reno said she was dropping the federal investigation last September, but kept the case open following public outcry from Brooklyn lawmakers and Jewish leaders, who reportedly persuaded her that the stabbing took place within an anti-semitic context.

In March, a federal grand jury was empaneled in Brooklyn to consider evidence unearthed by FBI teams that combed the neighborhood, conducting hundreds of interviews. According to the Post, federal prosecutors in charge of the case are now persuaded they have enough evidence to request the indictment.

Ports & Railways Authority

Head Office

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PURCHASES

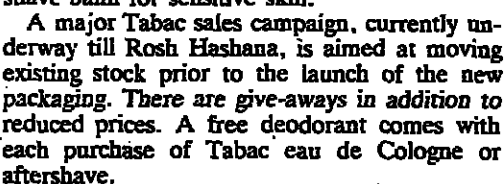
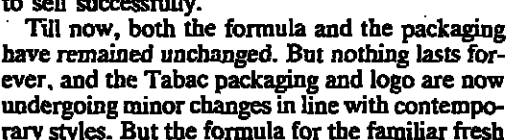
1. The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (P.R.A.), in accordance with its obligations with regard to tendering procedures, under the International Agreement on Government Procurement, GATT, wishes to obtain quotations for the supply of the following equipment:

Item	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	Addl. Opt.
1.1	1110/94	Various Permanent Railway Materials: - Screwspikes - Clamps - Isolating Kits & Rails - Wooden Sleepers - Fastening Accessories	Per Bill of Material	100%

- Requested start of delivery - as soon as possible.
- Preliminary conditions.
- Manufacturers must have proven capacity and past experience in the manufacture and supply of the above-mentioned equipment to railway administrations, and must demonstrate the ability to supply the specified equipment on time, and according to the agreed terms and conditions.
- Manufacturers must also be approved for ISO9001/9002 (or equivalent) standard or be listed for the same, including VAT, at the address above below.
- All the terms and proposals must be submitted in English.
- The P.R.A. is not obligated to purchase any equipment offered and may, at any time, revise or cancel its request as to the type and quantity of the equipment it wishes to purchase. Further, the P.R.A. is not obligated to purchase the lowest priced equipment offered.
- The P.R.A. reserves the right to proceed with or discontinue negotiations with any or all potential manufacturers, as specified in the tender documentation.
- Prior to the selection of the successful bidder, the P.R.A. will take into consideration its satisfaction with the fulfillment of its past contracts with the supplier.
- The last date to submit proposals is: September 18, 1994, at 1500 hours.
- The address for the receipt of the tender documentation and for submitting proposals is:
Ports and Railways Authority - Israel
Purchasing Division
74 Petach Tikva Road, 11th Floor, Room 1125
Tel Aviv 61201, Israel Fax 972-3-5620902, Tel. 972-3-5657064
Proposals by fax will not be accepted.

GREER FAY CASHMAN

Don't faint when you see the NIS 109 tag on Yves Saint Laurent's new Pure Lipstick: status



FRED HIATT
MOSCOW

BUT WHEN other Russian newspapers weight their front pages with somber tracts on President Boris Yeltsin's trip to Naples to meet with leaders of the Group of Seven industrialized nations,

And then there were other heads: "Burned Alive," "Black Sea Fleet: Idiocy or Betrayal?" "Erotic Massage for Deputies," and "Chernomyrdin's Castration Took Place Successfully."

Wait a minute — what was that last one? Ah, not Viktor Chernomyrdin, the stolid gray prime minister, but Chernomyrdin, a "bluish-black without-a-single-white-spot cat."

It's not Solzhenitsyn. But in Moscow these days, it's what people want to read.

(The Washington Post)

MOTORING
JOEL GORDIN

An independent businessperson could, of course, buy a tender and

ALL THIS became too much for the Transport Ministry, and in 1991 it announced that even a van without a partition was kosher for



Citroen's C15 had a rear side door cut into the loading box; the Czechoslovakian-made Skoda later went one better and provided two rear doors.

The ministry come back with an answer. The "van station wagons," they said, were commercials

This law, incidentally, was the reason one of the finest vans made in recent years, the Renault Espace, never made it here. It was only 1.79m. high and the authori-

ever, allowed four-wheel drives ("jeeps"), which are high vehicles, to slip through the net. Many businesspeople have during the past few years bought expensive

However the law finally reads, the new moves will cause an earthquake in the buying habits of sectors of the public. A death blow may be delivered to vehicles like the Express and the Citroen C15 and all the double-cabin trucks, which owed their popularity to being able to provide tax shelters.

OFFERS

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 * with instructions, NIS 75. 09-351759, 02-
 710384.
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 02-721256.

865839.
SHOE SKATES - white, size 10 (Israel 41),
NIS 50; Samsara perfume, slightly used,
NIS 95; Liz Claybourne eau-de-toilette
spray, NIS 75. 02-764515.

HIT-RISEK AND GULSIER COVERS - new, NIS 200; 2 perm-press dust ruffles, twin size, new, NIS 40 each. 02-511230, NS.

CASIO WATCH - 50 memories, new, NIS 100; men's suit, size 40 small, NIS 100;

STOREROOM FOR OLIM - seeks electrical appliances, household goods (pots, pans, dishes, etc.), old furniture, etc. 25 Givat Shaul St., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 02-513534. Will collect.

PETS

MESSAGE _____

91. _____

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The price of each item must be stated

MESSAGE _____

PETS

MESSAGE _____

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The Knesset's resounding yes

It was a welcome change to hear Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sound "presidential" rather than partisan in presenting the Washington Declaration to a Knesset vote yesterday. With the graciousness of a victor he paid homage to the late Menachem Begin, who concluded Israel's first peace treaty with an Arab state, and to Yitzhak Shamir's Likud government, the first to bring other Arab regimes to bilateral, direct negotiations with Israel.

Rabin also averred that the search for peace was not an invention of his own government; that indeed all Israeli governments since the creation of the state have pleaded with Arab leaders for a positive response to their calls for peace. Nor was he reticent about recalling some of the "physical and mental wounds" inflicted on Israel by the Jordanians. At a time when the peace euphoria's side effects include a severe case of self-flagellation, collective breast beating and historic revisionism, it was a salutary and timely reminder of who attacked whom.

The event also afforded Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu an opportunity to assert what he should have done often and more persuasively since the signing of the Oslo agreement: that the Likud does not oppose peace agreements per se, only bad and dangerous agreements. That the vote favoring the declaration was 91-3 with two abstentions is an indication of how differently the opposition views the White House handshake of July 25 with King Hussein from the handshake last September 13 with Yasser Arafat. There is little doubt that when Hussein decides to visit Jerusalem, his welcome to the city will be enthusiastic and virtually unanimous. A similar visit by Arafat can only cause havoc and dissension.

Yet the general approval of the rapprochement

with Jordan must not obscure its inability to affect Israel's dangerous contract with the PLO. Israel is still committed to evacuating all of Judea and Samaria, except for the settlements and the highways, within the next few months. It is still committed to a process whose "final status" negotiations will inevitably lead to the establishment of a radical Palestinian state on the 1949 armistice lines. And for all the brave words about "Jerusalem, the undivided, eternal capital of Israel" - impressively reaffirmed yesterday by a Likud Knesset resolution which passed with the majority of 77-9 - the fate of the city is yet to be negotiated with the PLO.

It is difficult to argue with Rabin's assertion that it was the agreement with the PLO which made the Washington Declaration possible. The Arab states have always made progress in the "peace process" contingent on Israel's recognition of the PLO. And once Israel met this Arab condition, progress was to be expected.

It is likely, too, that Israel will be able to achieve peace agreements with all its neighbors by yielding to the other fundamental Arab condition: full withdrawal from all territories won in the 1967 war. What the Israeli opponents of such withdrawal maintain is that peace agreements cannot prevent a dwarfed and vulnerable Israel from becoming an irresistible target for the surrounding dictatorships.

If there is general joy in Israel at the prospect of converting a de facto state of non-belligerence with Jordan to formal peace, it is precisely because in itself the Washington Declaration does not make Israel more vulnerable. Viewed as a separate entity, the agreement - as MK Avner Shalev (NRP) said yesterday - is a classic example of "peace for peace."

Sarid's surprise move

AS Communications and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni aptly put it, every leader must have his or her own subverter. Environment Minister Yossi Sarid owes his ministerial position to Aloni, and he owes her his appointment as delegate to the Cairo negotiations, which gave him the high media profile every politician craves. But on Tuesday, without warning, he declared he was running to replace Aloni as Meretz leader, and he intends to attempt the coup as soon as the party can organize its primaries.

As Aloni has pointed out, Sarid may be in a rush, but Meretz is not yet a real party. It is a union of three parties, each with a different constitution and constituency. Before they can conduct primary elections, they must decide they can stay together despite their divergent outlooks on socio-economic matters. The parties have formed an alliance for the sake of their common peace platform, but they are far from homogeneous. The Mapam faction is devoted to old-time socialist religion, while Shmini boasts Milton Friedman groups. Once the peace effort reaches a conclusion, it is not at all certain they can cobalt.

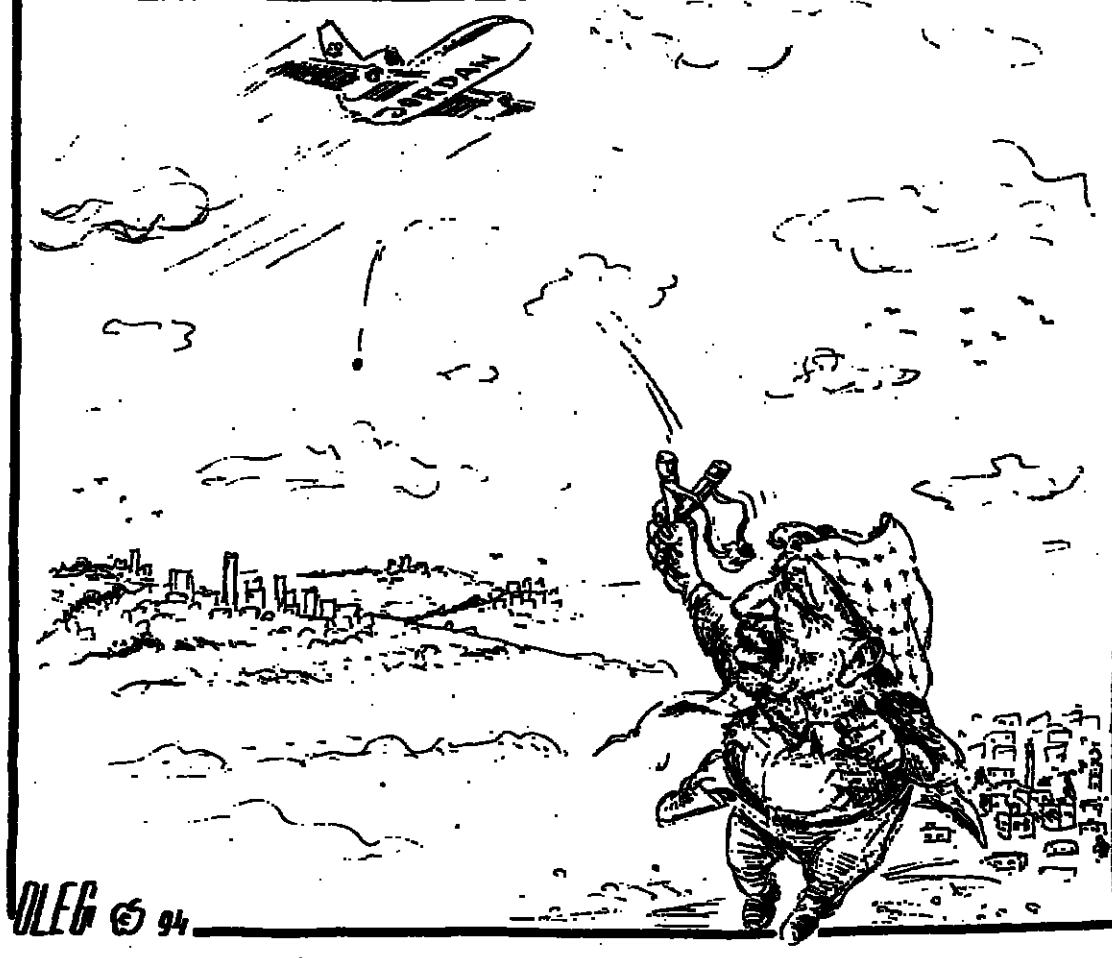
Yet Sarid's move is as reasonable as it is bold. With super-dove MK Haim Ramon successfully challenging his own Labor Party in the Histadrut

election, the prospect of Labor doves joining Meretz has become realistic. If the newly invigorated party is to appeal to a broader constituency, it cannot afford to have at its head a leader like Aloni, whose positions are often indistinguishable from those of anti-Zionist parties.

Sarid's reputation for awareness of security concerns, which Aloni seems to dismiss as manifestations of superfluous militarism, and his close identification with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the negotiations with the PLO, have helped him acquire a more centrist image. Nor has he gotten embroiled in the kind of acrimonious, bitter fights with the religious parties which plagued Aloni's first year in office.

It may be taken for granted that Sarid would be true to his word and not attempt a run for the premiership if Rabin, who will be 75 in 1996, stays in the race. But if Rabin decides to retire, the field will be wide open. And considering the available candidates, the articulate Sarid would be a formidable contender for the endorsement of the left-of-center bloc.

With the prime minister being elected for the first time in a direct, popular vote, his chances, particularly if the peace process appears to be working out, would be as good as any.



Egg on American faces

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

A high-ranking Iranian diplomat who knows names, dates and details of his country's international fundamentalist terror network is today on the run. Mousar Mousatmar is hunted by every major Western intelligence agency, an Argentine judge and a hit squad from Teheran with orders to "silence him permanently."

While in hiding in Caracas, Venezuela, after the bomb blast which killed more than 90 people in the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, the diplomat told an Argentine investigating judge the details of how the Iranian secret service had planned and executed that act of terror. He was also able to give precise details about how the recent London bomb attacks against Israeli and Jewish targets were planned and who was involved, as well as information about the bombing of the embassy in Buenos Aires two years ago.

Precious inside information such as this enabled Western and Israeli leaders to point a finger directly at the Iranian government as the instigators of the acts of violence.

We were told by an Argentine official: "The judge [who interviewed] Mousar Mousatmar was astonished by his knowledge.... Mousatmar knows all there is to know about how the Iranian government is spending tens of millions of dollars on a worldwide campaign to tear down the fabric of the Western democratic world."

"He gave precise details of how a major Hizbullah chieftain, Souhbi Toufaily, operating in the Bekaa Valley and Beirut is the linchpin of this operation. As a result of this information, the judge promptly contacted [Argentine President] Carlos Menem, who immediately requested Toufaily's extradition as the perpetrator of the Buenos Aires outrage. The Lebanese government refused point blank to send Toufaily to Buenos Aires, or allow him to be interrogated in Beirut."

"Mousar's condition for giving all the information was that he be granted immediate asylum in the US.... The American authorities dithered for days, mulling over the matter. Mousar, terrified that the Iranian assassins were on his tail, vanished."

Continued the Argentine official: "He is now in hiding.... We have nicknamed him the 'Iranian Scarlet Pimpernel'.... You can understand why he is so desperately wanted."

"When the bomb blast hit the Jewish community center, nobody knew for sure that it was the Iranians. Both the CIA and other intelligence agencies, including the Mossad, had no warning of the attack."

"Suddenly, by sheer luck, Mousar Mousatmar arrived out of the blue. He is the ultimate intelligence dream: a man who knows everything there is to know about the Iranian-controlled Moslem fundamentalist terror network. Now they can't find him, and everyone is asking awkward questions in Washington about why the authorities there let him slip through their blundering fingers."

He was the ultimate intelligence dream: the man who knew everything about the Iranian terror network. Then he disappeared

MOUSATMAR'S STORY began when he felt he could no longer live under the fanatical regime of his country which, he said, is "waging a medieval-style war against all non-Muslims."

He decided to defect, and caught a plane heading for Caracas where he appears to have friends. But he was followed by Iranian secret-service agents, who believed he was spying for some Western country.

His plane made a stopover in Cuba before proceeding to Venezuela. On arriving in Caracas, four days before the bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, he was surrounded by Iranian agents who hustled him out of the airport and took him to a hotel. Iranian embassy officials surrounded the hotel to make sure he didn't escape.

That same evening, Mousatmar outsmarted his captors by dressing up as a woman and escaping from the hotel. Later, when he heard that the British police were looking for a woman suspect who planted a bomb in Kensington Gardens opposite the Israeli Embassy and Kensington Palace, he said: "It's one of the favorite tricks of the Iranian top terrorist operators to dress up as a woman. They are trained by make-up artists how to do it successfully, and especially how to walk and behave like a Western woman."

"It is because I have watched them acquire their techniques that I

was able to walk right past the dozens of Iranian diplomats, some of whom even know me, without them recognizing me. I am pretty certain that the British would be better off looking for a man and not waste time tracking down middle-aged females."

After making his escape from the hotel, Mousatmar contacted a UN representative in Caracas. He was promised protection by the Venezuelan authorities. As soon as they were convinced that his story was genuine, the authorities promptly expelled the Iranian ambassador in Caracas for his role in grabbing Mousatmar at gunpoint and keeping him a prisoner.

Because he had information about the bombing of the Israeli Embassy as well as the Jewish community center in Argentina, contact was made with Buenos Aires, and Carlos Menem promptly sent a leading judge to Caracas to interrogate Mousatmar. This was a mere five days after the Jewish center was blown up. The president was frantic to get information about the identity of the bombers.

"We nearly fell backwards when the judge called to say that the man was genuine and singing like a canary. He even said that the next target was the Israeli Embassy in London, as well as Jewish centers. Our president personally passed on the information to the British government immediately. I know this really happened. That's why we were surprised when the British authorities, after the bombings took place just as Mousar described, claimed they had had no communication from us."

As days went by, Mousatmar grew frantic as he waited in vain for an American response to his request for asylum. He told the Venezuelan authorities: "South America is riddled with Iranian agents with plenty of money to bribe local police and even government officials to get to their targets and attack Jewish centers."

"I know for sure they are after my blood. The only place in the world where I know I will be safe is in the US. I have lots of information on how terrorist units have infiltrated their people there too. What are they waiting for?"

Certain that the Iranians would get to him despite his being guarded by Venezuelan special agents, the Iranian defector vanished into thin air. Now, belatedly, American and other security services are scouring South America to find him before the hit men from Teheran do.

The writers are the authors of the best-selling *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service, and other books on the Middle East.*

E-mail evil

SANDY ROVNER

THOSE amazing computer games, bulletin boards and E-mail services that bedevil children and bewilder many parents may not be as benign as they appear.

Some of them, in fact, may be powered by real-life villains every bit as evil as those in the fantasy games the youngsters play on-line. "You can become very close to people very quickly when you're on-line," says Dan Fisher, a Palm Bay, Florida, police investigator and a member of the Law Enforcement Electronic Technology Assistance Committee, part of a new effort to make police as familiar with the computer world of virtual reality as these savvy criminals.

Law-enforcement officials say children, often not realizing the danger, sometimes give out their names, addresses and phone numbers to people they meet over the computer network. This makes them vulnerable targets for a number of illegal activities, including sexual abuse.

For people who have computers with modems that allow them to call outside the home and connect up with networks, there are a number of online services that offer a wide variety of options to users. Included in these services are forums called bulletin boards that al-

Computer 'pals' put children at risk

low users to talk electronically with other users by posting public notes. Although there are laws in the US banning transmission of child porn by computer, the FBI does not monitor bulletin boards. And enforcement efforts are complicated by the fact that E-mail transmissions, according to an FBI statement, are "regarded as having the privacy rights of surface mail."

Frank Clark, a computer-crime specialist in Fresno, California, said there are about 25,000 private boards on the Internet in the US. Yet, "we found that virtually no one was working those kinds of crimes at all," he said.

Clark travels throughout the US and Canada giving courses to law-enforcement agencies on computer crimes. He cites one episode at a recent meeting in Ottawa at which he had a group of investigators sign on to a major computer service with false identifications and pretend to be children. "Then I had them post a couple of innocuous messages on teens' boards," he says. "The next day, we had solicitations for nude pictures, phone sex and offers to meet in person for sex."

MYRNA BLINN, an Idaho grandmother, has worked with child-abuse groups for years and is among a number of volunteers who warn teenagers via computer bulletin boards not to give away too much personal information to overly friendly electronic-mail pals.

She said she received an e-mail letter from a 14-year-old girl who had been corresponding on-line with someone she thought was a teenage boy. She had given him her phone number, but the boy turned out to be a 51-year-old man and he began harassing her with indecent phone calls. She was afraid to tell her family. Blinn and two of her friends confronted the man electronically and turned over information about him to police officials, who also arranged for the girl to get counseling.

Clark believes the tide is beginning to turn as parents and law-enforcement officials are recognizing potential problems. Computer services are also beginning to monitor their bulletin boards.

Despite increasing concerns, parents are often stymied in their efforts to monitor their kids because "the children are more computer-literate than the parents," Clark says. To counter that, Clark and his colleagues have come up with the following recommendations:

- If possible, keep the computer in a common area of the home. If a modem is being used, monitor times and numbers dialed.
- Know the warning signs of "computer addiction" to make sure children aren't becoming obsessed with the computer service. One clue is the storage of computer files ending in GIF, JPG, BMP, TIF, PCX, DL and GL. These are video or graphic-image files and parents should know what they illustrate.
- Children should never give out personal information to people they meet on computer bulletin boards.
- They should never respond to anyone who leaves them obnoxious, sexual or menacing E-mail.
- They should never set up face-to-face meetings with anyone they meet on a bulletin board.
- Parents are urged to notify police of all attempts by adults to set up meetings with their children. This is by far the most dangerous situation for children.

The writer is a reporter with The Washington Post's Health section.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Sir, - Just over a decade ago, I was a "liberal" (call it "leftist" if you'd like). Whether it was Greenpeace, Oxfam, Black Civil Rights, Women's Rights or Gay/Lesbian Rights, I rallied to the cause. I was active in the Reform/Progressive Judaism Movement, devoted time and energy to the New Jewish Agenda and participated in joint Jewish-Palestinian/Arab student dialogues.

Then I had a baby, and with it came a barrage of emotions that were foreign to me and caused me tremendous internal turmoil. I had this newly acquired need to protect and nurture that which was mine. I thought, "I've become selfish and self-centered." But as I reconciled myself to this new set of values and priorities, it was a relief to discover that having a child did not diminish, but enhanced my ability and capacity to empathize with human suffering.

Today, I'm true to myself, my people and my land. Instead of protesting against oppressive government policies that have resulted in a 27-year-old "festering wound" for the Palestinians, I find myself demonstrating against a government which has caused nothing short of a "traumatic injury" to the Jewish residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. I can't stop what Oslo started, but I can protest in order to raise the consciousness of the

Israeli public and the world, and to remind our leaders of who they are and where they are.

At a recent Diaspora Jewry event, Shimon Peres responded to a question regarding our MIAs by comparing our boys to those American MIAs from Vietnam. This comment was similar to the one he made comparing the Holocaust to Hiroshima. Equal rights for human suffering. After all, isn't all blood red? I believe one of the terms being thrown around today is "normalization." There is among today's leaders a need to join ranks with the rest of the world rather than retaining our uniqueness. But does this attitude make it more humane or does it create indifference?

Much of the "enlightened" Western world sits down to a morning newspaper, shakes its head or clicks its tongue at the front-page carnage, and then quickly turns to the sports page (unless, of course, O.J. Simpson is the murder suspect). There are exists a sort of "universal apathy," so to speak.

So, I ask my former liberal comrades to forgive me. Forgive me for identifying more with a butchered "settler" than a shot "Palestinian." Forgive me for caring more about the fate of our MIAs than of those in Vietnam. Forgive me for rejecting

comparisons of the Holocaust and other catastrophic world events.

Today I'm what they call a "nationalistic, right-wing, fanatic zealot." The baby who changed my life is now 10 years old and he has three brothers and a sister. As he grows and faces a "normalized" world, where sports will not be featured on our front pages and murders will be buried in some insignificant column in the back of the newspaper, I hope he remembers how his mother cried when a Jew was murdered and then ran out in the streets and held a sign for the world to see.

ELLEN W. HOROWITZ
Jerusalem

PENFRIENDS

ROY REUTERDAL (34) of Ammerud, Norway, 0958 Oslo, Norway, has visited Israel several times and loves our country. He would like to correspond with young Israeli women.

ELA SAIKA (23), of Ul. Jozef 46/6, 31-056, Krakow, Poland, is a student interested in classical music who would like to have Israeli penfriends.
THOMAS P. VALERINO (25) of P.O. Box 30, Milltown, N.J. 08850, U.S.A., is a communications technician interested in horses, swimming and cross-country running who would like to have Israeli penfriends.

WE WERE perusing through a recent copy of *Microscopy Today* when we came upon this quote in a story whose subject we (and, apparently, the writer of the article) could not fathom: "I feel a bit like Chaim Weizmann, the President of Israel, who said after a transatlantic crossing in the company of Albert Einstein: 'he explained his theory to me every day, and on arrival I was fully convinced that he understood it.'"

Prof. Raymond Coleman

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I would like to wean my husband from his sports addiction

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,
My husband is a sports addict. He spends all his free time watching, listening to and reading about sports. During the World Cup, I got as far as thinking about divorce. We were at a fancy dinner party, when I noticed he had disappeared. I found him in the bedroom, tuned in to our hosts' TV. I'm frustrated and angry a lot of the time. What can I do?

Short-Shruffed
Jerusalem

Dear Sh-Sh,

A spouse's addiction can often lead to divorce. Your husband should be informed that exceeding certain bounds of behavior will have consequences.

However, you mustn't hamper him unnecessarily. You will gain nothing by wining a battle to squelch something he is passionate about.

So by all means demand that he doesn't sneak off to find a TV at a dinner party - but give him enough rope to enjoy his hobby. Or find another hobby.

Dear Ruthie,

My wife and I both retired last year. We had planned to go traveling and were looking forward to having time alone together after so many years of the rat race. But before we even received our first pension checks, my wife found herself a part-time job.

I am annoyed, and can't understand what happened to all our plans. I feel we're back where we started - only now it's me waiting for her to come home from work. What does it all mean?

Tired and Ired Retiree
Afula

Dear Tired and Ired,

Your wife may have been frightened by the prospect of retiring.

Perhaps she feels she functions best as an active participant in the workforce. Or maybe it simply bores her to be at home all day. Ask her.

And don't be too put out by her desire to have a real schedule. Some people get very out of sorts when their days aren't structured. You needn't discard all the plans you made together. Your wife is only working part-time, and your lives aren't over.

If waiting for your wife to come home from work is irksome, perhaps you should begin examining your own options for keeping busy and pursuing interests long neglected out of necessity.

Dear Ruthie,

After forbidding my children to get a dog, I got one through the back door, so to speak. A couple down the street who work long hours have a puppy who comes to play with my kids every afternoon.

In the past week alone, I have had to clean up dog mess three times! This was one of the reasons I didn't want a dog of my own. So now I'm tending to someone else's. Telling my children not to encourage the dog to come to our entrance is useless.

Under-Dogged
Petah Tikva

Dear U-D,

It seems you are willing to air your gripe to anyone - except the people who can do something about it. Call your neighbors and tell them to care for their own canine. If they fail to comply, call the municipality and your local SPCA.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Visitors to Russia beware dangers in the air, crime

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

THE US State Department has warned the public not to travel within Russia on successors to the Soviet-era airline Aeroflot, according to a Los Angeles Times report.

The warning came in the American government's new Consular Information Sheet on Russia, which cited Russian airlines' unpredictable schedules and difficult conditions, including deterioration of maintenance, quality of service and overloading.

This follows an earlier Reuters report which warned visitors of crime in Russia and said the country's Interior Ministry recently issued a 12-page guide on personal safety.

The guide warns foreigners not to accept rides, drinks or seemingly generous offers of accommodation from strangers; to limit associations to such official contacts as state representatives and reputable business associates; to stay in hotels or other secure places; and change money only at official banks.

THE CARLTON Hotel in Eilat is offering a special summer nightly rate of NIS 350 per couple, with breakfast. The rate is valid for all days of the week, but there is a three-night minimum stay for weekends. In addition, the first child under 12 in the parents' room enjoys free bed and breakfast.

ARKIA PASSENGERS coming to Tel Aviv from the north or Eilat can beat the metropolis' traffic by renting a motor scooter through the airline. Renters must have a license valid for motor scooters and be 18 or over.

MEMSI, in conjunction with Visa, is offering holders of its Visa Memsi cards free travel insurance for two. The card also gives holders the benefit of services of automobile clubs throughout the world.

THE LATEST in cheap packages is a three-night deal at the five-star Apollonia Beach Hotel in Cyprus with breakfast for \$299, or three nights at the four-star Kamar Hotel in Marmaris in Turkey with half board for the same price. The package comes from International Travel, which is also offering a round-trip flight to Rhodes for \$199 and to Crete and Santorini for \$219.

Another package to Crete, from Mega Tours, offers a seven-night stay with half board and airfare for \$499.

Slightly further upscale is the Hilton-chain package in Turkey with three nights' bed and breakfast in Istanbul and four nights with half board at the Mersin Hilton, near Adana, for \$639, including flights to, from and within Turkey.

WANT TO keep in touch while in the air? Swissair has a shared phone for every two passengers in first and business classes and two wall-mounted phones in tourist class.

The price for outgoing calls is \$10 a minute. The airline cannot yet arrange for incoming calls. Another perk for business-class and first-class passengers is offered by American Airlines, which has opened new lounges in London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports where passengers may shower, shave, iron clothes, eat a light meal, telephone and send faxes, before going into London for their business or continuing on to Israel.

The lounges are open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. BRITISH AIRWAYS has been named the leading carrier in the world following an international survey by Travel Trade Gazette.

MEGA TOURS is offering a package to London, including an El Al flight and six nights with breakfast, from \$540. The price is based on the El Al special fare on its Tuesday flight and is valid until the end of August.

With help from his architect friend Henry Bacon, French first built a unique studio outfitted with railroad tracks to wheel his massive sculptures out into the sunshine, and later, a home that recalled his youthful sojourn in Italy.

Most of his attentions went to the landscape. He built English-style border gardens and an Italianate garden with a splashing fountain for a centerpiece and fashioned a long walkway lined with hydrangea and peonies.

For more than 30 years, French, his wife and daughter spent part of every year at the estate that came to be called Chesterwood. "I live here six months of the year - in heaven," he once said. "The other six months I live, well - in New York."

French died in 1931. His daughter, Margaret, a sculptor herself, lived on at the 600-dunam (150-acre) estate before donating much of it to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1969. Upon her death in 1973, 480 dunams, the house and studio came under the aegis of the National Trust, along with thousands of items - casts, models, sculpture tools - related to French's career.

Chesterwood is now a museum open to the public. Guided tours conduct visitors through the studio, home and gardens, but visitors also are free to explore the forest walks and formal gardens on their own.

The most intriguing place on the grounds is the studio where Daniel Chester French's studio was outfitted with railroad tracks so he could wheel his massive sculptures into the sunshine. (Cecilia Prestano/Hartford Courant)



Daniel Chester French's studio was outfitted with railroad tracks so he could wheel his massive sculptures into the sunshine. (Cecilia Prestano/Hartford Courant)

Sculptor's home and gardens: A work of art

TRAVEL
STEVE SILK

French fashioned some of his most famous works. The massive cube of a room, illumined by soft north light spilling through a bank of oversized windows, brims with sculptural artifacts. Casts of hands and feet hang from shelves lined with busts and life masks.

Full-size figures derived from a mythical past and warriors from American history create an eerie, heroic aura.

At center stage is Andromeda, the frankly sensual, life-size sculpture of a fabled beauty from Greek myth. Though she lies naked and shackled to a stone, French wrote that he was inspired by the increasing intellectual and physical freedom of American women.

Several times a year, the eight-meter-tall doors of the studio are thrown open and Andromeda is wheeled out on the railroad tracks to sunlit freedom.

Pass through a columned portal to French's reception room, the place where he did his negotiating, something that came as naturally to him as sculpting.

The rest of the room brims with an eclectic assortment of furniture of varying styles, not to mention painting and sculptures and a cur-

tailed Egyptian day bed where his models could rest in privacy. Here, the Frenches hosted parties and received guests during Friday afternoon teas.

In the two adjoining rooms it's easy to get a sense of how French, always attired in a suit and bow tie, integrated artistry, commerce and daily life.

He was an extremely methodical man who apportioned specific hours of every day to certain tasks - letter writing, sculpting, working outside. He had so many projects he feared none would come to fruition without daily attention.

When his day in the studio was complete, French stepped out into the gardens. Typically, it was his studio rather than his home that was decorated with colorful borders of iris, poppies, bleeding heart, hollyhock and columbine.

There he would weed, clip hedges or perhaps set off on one of the paths leading from his studio through the gardens and into the woods. Or, he might sit in the grapevine-covered pergola, a prime spot for watching the sun set.

"I go about in an ecstasy of delight over the loveliness of things," he wrote to a friend in 1911. "It is as beautiful as Fairyland."

Today's gardens look much as they did when French was alive; his meticulous journals provided a

guide for restoring the gardens to their original glory.

The woodland paths beyond the gardens wind through thick woods that sprout dozens of modern sculptures each summer. The 1994 Contemporary Sculpture at Chesterwood show displays the work of 40 artists from six states.

The best path for sculpture gazing is the easygoing 20-minute round-trip walk through hemlocks, oaks and maples to a dramatic overlook surveying the hills of Stockbridge, Lenox and Lee.

All the paths eventually circle back to the studio. The museum in a converted barn displays such items as French's top hat, his blueprint for Chesterwood's landscape design and tools he used to create his epic statuary.

Between those two places lies the home where French and his family lived. Inside, visitors are restricted to the central hallway, but you can get a peek at the room modeled after the parlor of his grandparents' home in Chester, New Hampshire, where French often summered as a child.

The house design, with its marble- and coal-studded stucco, its then pioneering use of large windows and its emphasis on the out-of-doors, helps knit the lawn and the nearby studio together in an uncommonly graceful way. The place is, after all, a work of art. (The Hartford Courant)

These books are designed for beginners who wish to learn Hebrew without the aid of a teacher. The books consist of 72 lessons and each lesson consists of numbered sentences. At the end of each lesson there are notes containing various explanations, both idiomatic and grammatical, of the Hebrew text as well as examples clarifying the explanations.

JP Price: NIS 56.00
HEBREW AT YOUR EASE
Eliezer Tirkel

Contains four 60-minute cassette and a 272-page illustrated book. It starts with the alphabet and progresses step-by-step to increasingly more complex usage of Hebrew. The book includes a 70-word abbreviated dictionary and corresponding lessons. Available in Hebrew-English, Hebrew-French, Hebrew-German, and Hebrew-Spanish.

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201 HEBREW VERBS

201 verbs fully conjugated in all tenses, clearly presented in table format. Also included are introductions explaining the Hebrew verb-system, lists of additional Hebrew verbs under every paradigm, and a Hebrew-English, English-Hebrew verb index. Alphabetic arrangement. By Abraham S. Halkin, Schreiber, 425 pp.

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By Dr. Eliezer Tirkel and Hanna Maschler. Formerly titled, Everything You Want To Know About Hebrew Verbs And More... Contains an extensive glossary of English verbs with Hebrew translation, in-depth tables for each verb "family," as well as Hebrew verb notes and also Hebrew verb conjugation tables. Schreiber 456 pp.

JP Price: NIS 43.90

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Jong at 50 makes a mountain out of a mohel

FEAR OF FIFTY, by Erica Jong.
Harper Collins. 325 pp. \$24.

INSIDE this well-padded book is one slim, trim magazine article screaming to get out.

Well, okay, maybe two articles. The famously naughty Erica Jong, she of the picaresque novel, the many marriages and the zipless sex, celebrates turning 50 with this memoir.

Jong has written six novels, the best-known being the best-selling *Fear of Flying*, that oh-so-70s paean to spontaneous sexual combustion. She's also an accomplished poet and essayist.

Fear of Fifty is an amalgam of Jong's thoughts on feminism, aging, sex, motherhood, Jewishness, marriage and the rigors of writing for a living.

These are interspersed with her account of growing up in a creative, neurotic, fascinating New York City family before going on to a series of creative, neurotic relationships of her own.

Her family is a hothouse of emotional angst - peopled by

women who wanted to be artists but were marooned by motherhood; a father who wanted to be a show-biz star but wound up selling giftware; an overbearing grandmother; a self-sacrificing grandmother; a demented lesbian aunt; and sisters who compete rather than comfort. That makes it, of course, an excellent incubator for a young writer.

Jong uses them - and her four husbands and her daughter - as exemplars of victors and victims in the war between men and women, and women and women.

Unfortunately, she keeps interrupting the personal stories, which make her philosophical points quite compellingly by themselves, to interject long passages of commentary on sexual politics. Both the family narrative and the essays on women's conflicted roles in American society would have been stronger as separate pieces.

Jong also gives us, in exhausting detail, accounts of her many love affairs, right down to the quality of the orgasms.

Although inflated with more air

BOOKS
CAROLE GOLDBERG

than cheap ice cream, the book has tasty nuggets. Among them:

• The whip-lash generation: Jong coins a memorable term here, describing women of her generation who have been made dizzy by the successive upsurges, backlashes, advances and retrenchments of feminism in America.

• Mothers and daughters: Their age-old conflict comes from a shared, contradictory desire for daughters to be just like their mothers, yet at the same time to acknowledge and grow beyond their mothers' limitations. I am the ground from which you push

off, she tells her daughter, Molly. • Women and solitude: One of the unexpected bonuses of reaching the 50s for many women is realizing that being alone can be a calming, refreshing and fulfilling experience.

• Good girls and bad boys: Why do good women fall for bad men? Afraid to break the rules themselves, Jong says, they live out their fantasies of rebellion through relationships with men who have no such scruples.

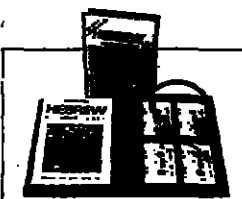
• Why there are so many Jewish writers: Not, Jong says, because they are "people of the Book," or come from homes where reading is revered, but because by writing, they can define their class, reinvent themselves and create pedigrees - an obsession with identity

central to quintessential outsiders whose very survival depends upon it.

Why some Jewish men reject Jewish women: Jong says it might be because of a lifelong resentment of their mothers for standing by and allowing them to be circumcised, thereby forever wounding them in their very manhood. Perhaps, but here Jong may be making a mountain out of a molehill.

THESE INSIGHTS and many others are provocative and worth discussing. But some readers will weary of plowing through Jong's lists of lovers and pontifications about the meaning of life to get to them. (The Hartford Courant)

Learning Hebrew?



MORI 1 AND 2

These books are designed for beginners who wish to learn Hebrew without the aid of a teacher. The books consist of 72 lessons and each lesson consists of numbered sentences. At the end of each lesson there are notes containing various explanations, both idiomatic and grammatical, of the Hebrew text as well as examples clarifying the explanations.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1994

MKs: Rabin should reconsider plans to close TAAS plant

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin should reconsider plans to close the TAAS plant in Jerusalem, due to the need to build up industry in the capital, the Knesset Finance Committee said yesterday.

TAAS's management wants to concentrate all the company's operations in its Haifa plant to increase efficiency.

Since it is a government company, however, the final decision will be made by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Rabin, in his capacity as defense minister.

Committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) said he deliberately prevented the committee from taking a stand on whether the company should move, since this is not the committee's job.

Thus the final resolution merely recommends that Rabin review the

EVELYN GORDON

decision, due to the need to strengthen the capital's industrial base.

However, it was clear that most of the committee opposed the closure. "Management did not conduct its examination of [the desirability of closing] the plant in a serious fashion," said Yossi Vamunu (Labor), charging that the decision was made on the basis of an economic study which was several years old.

Vamunu also said it was crucial to keep the plant open to protect the jobs of its 270 workers.

Rafi Elul (Labor) said that particularly now, when certain sectors of the population are worried about the status of Jerusalem following the various peace agreements, it is important

to strengthen the city's industry.

Furthermore, he said, Mayor Ehud Olmert has offered the plant an alternative, cheaper site in Jerusalem, enabling it to sell its current plot of land in Beit Hakerem for about \$40 million. This, he said, should ease the company's financial worries.

"TAAS's managing director should be happy," he said. "He got a \$40m. present today."

Elie Goldschmidt (Labor) suggested that since there were two contradictory expert opinions on the desirability of closing the plant — one commissioned by management and the other by the workers — the two sides should agree on a third outside expert to decide between them.

In principle, however, he said he disagreed with Gal's stand that the committee shouldn't be involved in such decisions.



Vamunu: The 270 jobs in the plant must be protected.

Teva announces 30% rise in net profits to \$18.1m.

RACHEL NEIMAN

of Teva's sales.

Sales to the local private sector rose 34%, while sales of raw materials went up 35%.

Trading of Teva shares was temporarily halted yesterday on the New York and Tel Aviv stock exchanges following publication of the results, as management met to review its strategy with a team of analysts and brokers.

In Two-Sided trading in Tel Aviv,

Teva's shares rose 1.7%. On NASDAQ, its shares were up .125 to 29.125 in late afternoon trading.

Teva's receipt of a license to market the active ingredient used in multiple sclerosis treatment Copaxone is expected to significantly increase company profitability.

After a seven-month waiting period, Teva received a license to market a generic version of Clemastine Fumarate Syrup in the US. The estimated value of the market for the syrup is \$20 million.

UK's Astaire plans to open office here

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ASTAIRE & Partners plans to open an office in Tel Aviv, becoming the first British brokerage to do so here.

The firm has appointed Daniel Fuchs as their local representative. Fuchs, who has more than 20 years of experience with Israel General Bank specializing in capital market products, will try to find new business and act as a link to Astaire's head office in London.

Astaire is a member of the Securities and Futures Authority, the London Stock Exchange and the International Securities Market Association.

The company said it is well established here, having conducted business with Israeli customers for more than 30 years. It has also acted as broker to the London listings of companies, such as Bank Hapoalim and Dead Sea Works.

Astaire said it intends to offer a first-rate personal service to both institutional and private clients, especially to those who enjoy non-resident tax status with the ability to transact international investment business locally.

Clients interested in dealing directly with the firm's head office will be able to benefit from a direct line to London at Astaire's expense via a 177 number.

Reichmann's death a blow to Darcom

JUDY SIEGEL

THE sudden death of David Reichmann is a blow to Darcom, the telecommunications company he founded in 1992, but the firm expects to continue carrying out his aims, said Darcom CEO Zvi Amid.

The Tel Aviv-based company lost a "young man with a highly developed business sense," Amid said yesterday after returning from the Benai Brak funeral.

On Monday, Amid flew back with Reichmann from a business trip in England.

Reichmann, 34, died from an apparent heart attack on Tuesday.

Amid said he did not know which members of the Reichmann family would get involved in the business. A younger brother has a high-tech firm in Canada, and there are two younger brothers and a sister, Amid said.

The company has two other investors, IDB and Dovrat-Shrem. Amid was sure they wanted the company (which has about three dozen employees) to continue functioning and flourishing. Although the in-

vestment totaled \$24 million, its current value was more than double that, said Amid.

"David Reichmann wanted very much to settle in Israel and to establish a private company that would promote telecommunications in an era of Middle East peace," said Amid.

Reichmann's father Ralph, and his mother, flew to Israel for the funeral, and David's uncles are due to visit during the shiva.

Communications Minister Shlomit Aloni and her staff sent condolences to the Reichmanns, and several ministry officials attended the funeral.

"He was a man with a vision and a pioneer in the development of the private sector in the field of telecommunications," a ministry spokesman said.

Darcom offers overseas calls at competitive prices, as well as video-conference services, fax and data transfer lines for private companies and other high-tech services.

Elscent reports 61% fall in net profits

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ELSCINT yesterday reported a 61 percent decrease in second quarter net profits to \$2.72 million from \$7.15m. during the same quarter last year.

Revenues fell to \$54.7m. from \$60m., while earnings per share declined to \$0.03 from \$0.09.

The company attributed the apparent decline in profitability to a one-time gain of \$3.5m. in the second quarter last year, resulting from the settlement of a patent suit.

Elscent's shares were down .125 to 2.375 in late trading in New York.

Elscent president Shmuel Pereg said a slow economy had affected the nuclear medical instruments market, which has declined 25 percent since the beginning of the year. "This fact is the determining element for the fall in revenues and the poor quarterly results," he said.

He expressed hope that the introduction of the CT-Twin line of products, together with the cutbacks in expenses already in effect, would improve results for the rest of the year.

Aladdin Knowledge Systems reported a rise in second quarter net profits to \$595,000 from \$283,000 during the same time last year.

Revenues jumped to \$1.67m. from \$951,000, while earnings per share rose to \$0.14 from \$0.10.

The company attributed growth to an increased number of US firms choosing to protect their software and Aladdin's own increased efficiency.

Magal, a security systems developer, posted a 23% rise in net profits for the second quarter to \$526,000 from \$427,000.

Revenues went up to \$4.44m. from \$3.35m., while earnings per share rose to \$0.11 from \$0.09.

The company received a number of large orders during the second quarter, including a \$1.75m. one for four AISYS robotic bomb detection units.

A \$5m. order for the electronic security fence marking the border between Israel and the autonomous areas is expected to be completed during the second half of the year.

Leumi Finance Co., a member of the Bank Leumi group, reported a 41% drop in net profits for the second quarter to NIS 853,000 from NIS 1.44m. in the corresponding period last year.

Operating profits before taxes increased to NIS 4m. from NIS 3.4m.

Leumi Finance's total assets fell to NIS 2.79 billion at the end of the second quarter from NIS 3.07b. at the end of last year.

Leumi Finance makes bond issues to the public for the Leumi group.

American Home Products bids \$8.5b. for Cyanamid

NEW YORK (Reuters) — American Home Products Corp., maker of Advil, Anacin and Dristar pain relievers, said on Tuesday it bid \$8.5 billion cash for American Cyanamid Co., trying to create a company that could challenge Merck as the nation's biggest diversified drug company.

The offer was for \$95 per share — a 50 percent premium over American Cyanamid's closing price of \$63 on Monday. It was estimated to be worth \$8.5b. based on American Cyanamid's 89.75 million outstanding shares.

American Home Products said its board would hold a special meeting August 16 to consider the deal but said it is prepared to close the acquisition quickly.

The deal would combine companies with \$12.6b. in sales last year, challenging Merck & Co. Inc. for the top spot in the US drug industry, although a merger is far from certain at this point.

Merck's sales totaled \$10.5b. last year, and its 1993 takeover of Medco Containment Services will boost that total above \$12b. this year.

American Cyanamid had no immediate reaction to the bid.

In after-hours, off-exchange, electronic trading on Tuesday, its stock jumped \$29.25 to \$93. American Cyanamid's stock was halted up 75 cents at \$63.75 on the New York Stock Exchange, before the announcement.

"It's a real stunner, no doubt about that," said Steve Cohen, a partner with arbitrage firm Cohen Partners. "I would certainly say American Cyanamid is going to have to give this the most serious consideration imaginable."

A combined company would include American Home Products' drug, healthcare and foods groups and American Cyanamid's prescription drug and agricultural products businesses.

The merger would join two of America's oldest diversified drug companies.

Cyanamid, founded in 1907, began producing calcium cyanamide, the world's first synthetic fertilizer and diversified into drugs in the 1930s.

American Home Products began in 1926 through the merger of a number of smaller companies that dispensed over-the-counter medications.

The offer comes on the heels of a rumors that American Cyanamid was in talks to swap some assets with Britain's SmithKline Beecham PLC in a transaction that would have taken American Cyanamid out of the prescription drug business.

It follows a string of takeovers in the industry, including Merck's \$6b. acquisition of Medco Containment Services last year and SmithKline's \$2.3b. deal to buy drug benefit manager Diversified Pharmaceutical Services last May.

Ararat fires investment manager for alleged stock manipulation

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ARARAT Insurance Co. has fired its investment manager following suspicions that he was involved in stock manipulation.

In an announcement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday, Ararat said it suspects a worker breached the company's trust.

Ararat said it is unable to estimate the extent of the damage, if any, caused to the firm.

Ararat's legal advisers said the company's insurance policy covers it against damage of this kind. Ararat management refused to comment on the episode.

Sources in the insurance field said Ararat's losses from stock exchange investments in the first quarter were much higher than those of most of other insurance companies.

Ports & Railways Authority

Head Office

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PURCHASES

1. The Ports and Railways Authority — Israel (PRA), in accordance with its obligations with regard to tendering procedures, under the International Agreement on Government Procurement, GATT, wishes to obtain quotations for the supply of the following equipment:

Item	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.1	3814/004	Steel Pipes/Piles Dia 30" Wall thickness 16mm, ST-522	500 Tons

2. The anticipated delivery date for the pipes is December 1994 — January 1995 at Israel port.
3. Preliminary conditions.
- 3.1 Manufacturers must have proven capacity and past experience in the manufacture and supply of the above-mentioned pipes, and must demonstrate the ability to supply the pipes on time, and according to the agreed terms and conditions.
- 3.2 Manufacturers must also be approved to ISO9001/9002 (or equivalent) standard or be listed for the same.
4. Tender documentation and specifications of the above mentioned pipes are available up on payment of NIS 1170 (to the order of the PRA.) including VAT, at the address above below.
5. The PRA is not obligated to purchase any pipes which are offered and may, at any time, revise or cancel its request as to the type and quantity of the pipes it wishes to purchase. Further, the PRA is not obligated to purchase the lowest priced pipes offered.
6. The PRA reserves the right to proceed with or discontinue negotiations with any or all potential manufacturers, as specified in the tender documentation.
7. The last date for receiving the Tender Documentation is September 4, 1994.
8. The last date to submit the proposals is September 18, 1994 at 1500 hours.
9. The address for the receipt of the Tender Documentation and for submitting proposals is: Ports and Railways Authority — Israel Purchasing Division 74 Petach Tikva Road, 11th Floor, Room 1125 Tel Aviv 61201, Israel Fax 972-3-5620002, Tel. 972-3-5657064
10. Proposals by fax will not be accepted.

La Nationale plans to raise NIS 45m.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

LA NATIONALE Israel Insurance Co., part of the Israel Phoenix Insurance group, yesterday announced plans to raise NIS 45 million.

The company has submitted a draft prospectus to the Securities Authority based on its financial statements for March 31.

The capital is expected to help La Nationale in the purchase of United Mizrahi Bank, for which it is one of the bidders.

Several weeks ago La Nationale received Bank of Israel approval in principle to purchase a controlling interest in Mizrahi.

The company intends to raise

NIS 30m. in cash through the issue of preferential shares and an additional NIS 15m. via warrants to be exercised into preferred stock in the future.

While the preferred stock will not give holders voting rights, the owners will receive a guaranteed dividend equal to one percent of the total investment before distribution of the regular dividend.

The company hopes to raise the capital by the end of the month. The issue will be La Nationale's third this year. It has raised NIS 141m. in two public issues of ordinary shares and convertible bonds.

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The eight-page New York Times Weekly Review including US and world news, arts and business, distributed free with THE JERUSALEM POST every Monday

Requests for R&D grants up

JOSE ROSENFELD

RESEARCH and development grant requests shot up 100 percent in July from the same period last year, Industry and Trade Ministry Chief Scientist Yehoshua Gleitman reported yesterday.

Since the beginning of the year, the ministry's research committee — headed by Gleitman — approved NIS 790 million in research and development grants, a 30% increase over the same period last year.

During that period, 20% more firms requested grants, and the total number of projects submitted rose 13%.

Since the beginning of the year, 534 companies have requested

grants, compared with 428 last year. Firms submitted 1,086 projects, up from 964 last year.

Based on the current rate of grant requests, Gleitman expects there will be a shortfall of NIS 100m. by the end of the year. The chief scientist's budget is NIS1b. this year.

Gleitman said he expects research and development investments to rise between 5% and 10% next year.

He added that he will survey the industry to determine if the steep jump in grant requests last month reflects an acceleration in research and development activity in the coming months.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Petah (foreign currency deposit rates) (3.8.94)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$500,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$2,000,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$5,000,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$10,000,000)	4.000	4.375	4.875

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (3.8.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate
U.S. dollar	3.5540	3.6220	2.00	3.12	3.12	3.5741
German mark	3.5528	3.6758	2.00	3.12	3.12	3.5529
French franc	4.8714	5.1418	1.00	1.87	1.87	1.8722
Japanese yen (100)	4.8714	5.1418	1.00	1.87	1.87	1.8722
Swiss franc	3.0182	3.0526	2.00	3.12	3.12	3.0181
British pound	1.7043	1.7283	1.00	1.78	1.78	1.7042
Spanish peseta (100)	2.9528	2.9772	1.00	2.53	2.53	2.9527
Italian lira (1,000)	0.8227	0.8444	0.50	0.45	0.45	0.8226
Portuguese escudo	0.4879	0.4941	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.4878
Belgian franc (100)	0.4889	0.4928	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.4888
Dutch guilder	0.6515	0.6588	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.6514
Canadian dollar	2.1831	2.2131	2.00	2.25	2.25	2.1830
Australian dollar	2.2218	2.2518	2.00	2.25	2.25	2.2217
S. African rand	0.8227	0.8444	0.50	0.45	0.45	0.8226
Israeli sheqel (10)	0.8227	0.8444	0.50	0.45	0.45	0.8226
Israeli sheqel (100)	8.227	8.444	5.00	4.50	4.50	8.226
Israeli sheqel (1,000)	82.27	84.44	50.00	45.00	45.00	82.26
Israeli sheqel (10,000)	822.7	844.4	500.00	450.00	450.00	822.6
Israeli sheqel (100,000)	8,227	8,444	5,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	8,226
Israeli sheqel (1,000,000)	82,270	84,440	50,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	82,260
Israeli sheqel (10,000,000)	822,700	844,400	500,000.00	450,000.00	450,000.00	822,600
Israeli sheqel (100,000,000)	8,227,000	8,444,000	5,000,000.00	4,500,000.00	4,500,000.00	8,226,000
Israeli sheqel (1,000,000,000)	82,270,000	84,440,000	50,000,000.00	4,500,000.00	4,500,000.00	82,260,000
Israeli sheqel (10,000,000,000)	822,700,000	844,400,000	500,000,000.00	45,000,000.00	45,000,000.00	822,600,000
Israeli sheqel (100,000,000,000)	8,227,000,000	8,444,000,000	5,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000.00	4,500,000,000.00	8,226,000,000
Israeli sheqel (1,000,000,000,000)	82,270,000,000	84,440,000,000	50,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000.00	4,500,000,000.00	82,260,000,000
Israeli sheqel (10,000,000,000,000)	822,700,000,000	844,400,000,000	500,000,000,000.00	45,000,000,000.00	45,000,000,000.00	822,600,000,000
Israeli sheqel (100,000,000,000,000)	8,227,000,000,000	8,444,000,000,000	5,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000.00	8,226,000,000,000
Israeli sheqel (1,000,000,000,000,000)	82,270,000,000,000	84,440,000,000,000	50,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000.00	82,260,000,000,000
Israeli sheqel (10,000,000,000,000,000)	822,700,000,000,000	844,400,000,000,000	500,000,000,000,000.00	45,000,000,000,000.00	45,000,000,000,000.00	822,600,000,000,000
Israeli sheqel (100,000,000,000,000,000)	8,227,000,000,000,000	8,444,000,000,000,000	5,000,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000,000.00	8,226,000,000,000,000
Israeli sheqel (1,000,000,000,000,000,000)	82,270,000,000,000,000	84,440,000,000,000,000	50,000,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000,000.00	4,500,000,000,000,000.00	82,260,000,000,000,000
Israeli sheqel (10,000,000,000,000,000,000)	822,700,000,000,000,000	844,400,000,000,000,000	500,000,000,000,000,000.00	45,000,000,000,000,000.00	45,	

Key Representative Rates	
US dollar	NIS 3.0530 +0.20%
Sterling	NIS 4.6864 +0.03%
Mark	NIS 1.9242 -0.25%

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Index	Last	Change
DJ Industrial	2783.43	+3.79
DJ Transport	1813.52	+4.38
DJ Utility	181.72	+1.77
DJ Composite	181.72	+1.77
NYSE	181.72	+1.77
NYSE Composite	181.72	+1.77
NYSE Industrial	181.72	+1.77
NYSE Transport	181.72	+1.77
NYSE Utility	181.72	+1.77
NYSE Composite	181.72	+1.77

Other stock market indexes

Index	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3184	+1.18
Nikkei 225	12,034.50	+12.50
Hong Kong Hang Seng	8,585.50	+10.14

Israeli stocks in NY

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Israeli stocks in NY (cont.)

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Libor rates

Rate	Last	Change
3 months	4.8125	+0.0000
6 months	4.8125	+0.0000
9 months	4.8125	+0.0000
12 months	4.8125	+0.0000
15 months	4.8125	+0.0000
18 months	4.8125	+0.0000
21 months	4.8125	+0.0000
24 months	4.8125	+0.0000
27 months	4.8125	+0.0000
30 months	4.8125	+0.0000
33 months	4.8125	+0.0000
36 months	4.8125	+0.0000

Foreign financial data courtesy of

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NEW COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

Commodity	Last	Change
Crude Oil (WTI)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Brent)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Dubai)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Med East)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Persian Gulf)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Arabian Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Indian Ocean)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (South China Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Andaman Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Arafura Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Tasman Sea)	21.50	+0.10

London commodities

Commodity	Last	Change
Crude Oil (WTI)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Brent)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Dubai)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Med East)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Persian Gulf)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Arabian Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Indian Ocean)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (South China Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Andaman Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Arafura Sea)	21.50	+0.10
Crude Oil (Tasman Sea)	21.50	+0.10

Spot market metals (US)

Metal	Last	Change
Gold (100g)	372.40	+0.10
Silver (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Copper (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Aluminum (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Zinc (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Nickel (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Lead (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Tin (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Antimony (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Arsenic (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Bismuth (100g)	1.10	+0.01

New York metal futures

Metal	Last	Change
Gold (100g)	372.40	+0.10
Silver (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Copper (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Aluminum (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Zinc (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Nickel (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Lead (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Tin (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Antimony (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Arsenic (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Bismuth (100g)	1.10	+0.01

London metal futures

Metal	Last	Change
Gold (100g)	372.40	+0.10
Silver (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Copper (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Aluminum (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Zinc (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Nickel (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Lead (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Tin (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Antimony (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Arsenic (100g)	1.10	+0.01
Bismuth (100g)	1.10	+0.01

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Two-sided trading

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

PARALLEL LIST

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Trade & Services

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Investment

Symbol	Last	Change
Amir	47.25	+0.10
Amir A	47.25	+0.10
Amir B	47.25	+0.10
Amir C	47.25	+0.10
Amir D	47.25	+0.10
Amir E	47.25	+0.10
Amir F	47.25	+0.10
Amir G	47.25	+0.10
Amir H	47.25	+0.10
Amir I	47.25	+0.10
Amir J	47.25	+0.10
Amir K	47.25	+0.10
Amir L	47.25	+0.10
Amir M	47.25	+0.10
Amir N	47.25	+0.10
Amir O	47.25	+0.10
Amir P	47.25	+0.10
Amir Q	47.25	+0.10
Amir R	47.25	+0.10
Amir S	47.25	+0.10
Amir T	47.25	+0.10
Amir U	47.25	+0.10
Amir V	47.25	+0.10
Amir W	47.25	+0.10
Amir X	47.25	+0.10
Amir Y	47.25	+0.10
Amir Z	47.25	+0.10

Oil Exploration

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Spurs already cashing in

LONDON (AP) — Even before they have kicked a ball, the £4.6 million which Tottenham Hotspur spent on World Cup stars Ilie Dumitrescu and Jurgen Klinsmann has proven a sound investment.

With three weeks before the season opener, Tottenham reported yesterday it is struggling to keep up with demand for tickets and expected to sell more than £500,000 worth of season tickets before then. Each home match at White Hart Lane is expected to be a sellout.

Spurs manager Ossie Ardiles signed Romanian midfielder Dumitrescu for £2.6m last week and followed two days later with German striker Klinsmann for £2m.

Tottenham already recovered £2.2m of its spending

with the sale of Vinny Samways to Everton on Tuesday. The club's souvenir shop is also reporting a hectic trade and has run out of Tottenham shirts bearing Klinsmann's name.

The signings have changed the mood of Tottenham supporters, who were seemingly resigned to a year near the bottom of the Premier League after the club was penalized six points before the season began, banned from the FA Cup and fined £1.5m after being found guilty of making irregular payments to players several years ago.

The supporters are now brimming with enthusiasm and are right behind Ardiles and chairman Alan Sugar as they set out to overcome the six-point penalty.

Tigers' 5-run ninth tops Indians

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mickey Testle's two-run home run capped a five-run ninth inning as the Detroit Tigers beat the Indians 12-9 Tuesday night for their first win at Jacobs Field. Mike Cuyler had three hits and three RBIs for the Tigers.

The Indians' sloppy defense and poor pitching gave away a 9-7 lead in the ninth. Tony Phillips led off with a single off Jeff Russell (0-6), and Lon Whicker then hit a potential double-play grounder that second baseman Carlos Baerga threw into left field, letting one run score.

A single by Travis Fryman put runners at first and third before Cecil Fielder's RBI single tied it. Kirk Gibson's sacrifice fly off Derek Lilliquist put Detroit ahead 10-9, and Testle followed with his 16th home run.

Blue Jays 8, Red Sox 7
Ed Sprague had three hits and drove in three runs, and John Olerud hit a tie-breaking homer in the seventh as Toronto used five unearned runs to win at Fenway.

Joe Carter added two RBIs, giving him 99 for the season. The Blue Jays have won 12 of 17 and are tied with Boston for third place in the AL East.

White Sox 6, Rangers 2

Rangers pitcher Kenny Rogers came crashing back to reality in the first start since his perfect game, lasting only 5 1/2 innings.

Rogers, who last Thursday threw the 12th perfect game in modern major-league history and the first by an American League left-hander, kept up a tradition of struggling in the next outing. Only three of the group — Cy Young in 1904, Catfish Hunter in 1968 and Tom Browning in 1988 — have won their next appearance. Young followed the first modern perfect game with a 15-inning, five-hit shutout of the Detroit Tigers.

Rogers retired nine straight batters before walking Julio Franco with one out in the fourth. Robin Ventura then hit a 2-2 fastball for his 17th homer, putting the White Sox ahead 3-1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Barry Larkin homered twice and doubled, driving in three runs and scoring three as visiting Cincinnati overcame three home runs by Barry Bonds to win its fifth straight.

Larkin, who homered in the first inning for a 2-0 Reds lead, hit his eighth homer in the eighth inning. He also doubled in the third and scored on an infield out by Tony Fernandez, who drove in three runs.

Bonds drove in four runs with his three homers, pushing his total for the season to 35. His first homer, a two-run shot, came in the third inning. Then he tied the game at 4-4 in the fifth inning, sending Pete Schreder's first pitch of the inning into the right upper deck for his 34th homer. He hit a solo homer in the ninth.

Ken Hill became the NL's first 15-game winner, pitching host Montreal to its fifth straight victory.

Montreal, baseball's winningest team with a 67-38 record, has won 13 of 14 games and increased its NL East lead to 4 1/2 games over Atlanta.

Hill (15-5) allowed three runs on six hits in six innings.



HUNG UP — Indians' catcher Sandy Alomar makes a spectacular catch off a foul ball from Tigers' Cecil Fielder. (Reuters)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Montreal	67	38	.638	—
Atlanta	63	43	.594	5
New York	51	54	.486	16
Philadelphia	51	55	.481	16.5
Florida	46	60	.434	21.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	63	43	.594	—
Houston	60	47	.561	3.5
Pittsburgh	50	55	.478	12.5
Chicago	48	57	.457	14.5
St. Louis	47	58	.448	15.5
West Division				

West Division

Los Angeles	53	53	.500	—
San Francisco	52	46	.481	2
Colorado	51	68	.438	3
San Diego	42	67	.385	12

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Florida 3, Chicago 2 (10)
Cincinnati 3, San Francisco 7
Washington 2, St. Louis 3

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Cincinnati 3, Chicago 2 (10)
Cleveland 9, San Francisco 7
Pittsburgh 2, Philadelphia 2
New York 4, Atlanta 1
Montreal 5, St. Louis 4
Houston 6, Texas 2
Los Angeles 7, San Diego 6 (11)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	68	38	.643	—
Baltimore	58	48	.559	8
Boston	51	55	.481	18
Toronto	51	55	.481	18
Detroit	48	57	.452	18

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	63	42	.600	—
Cleveland	60	44	.577	2.5
Kansas City	60	47	.561	3.5
Minneapolis	50	58	.472	13.5
Minnesota	47	58	.448	18

West Division

West Division

Texas	50	58	.472
Oakland	47	58	.448
California	44	65	.411
Seattle	41	62	.398

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Toronto 8, Boston 7
Detroit 12, Cleveland 9
Baltimore 10, Minnesota 8

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Toronto 8, Boston 7
Detroit 12, Cleveland 9
Baltimore 10, Minnesota 0
Kansas City 6, Oakland 4
New York 7, Milwaukee 1
Chicago 6, Texas 2
Seattle 10, California 2

Owners fail to make pension plan payment

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball owners didn't make their payment to the players' pension plan, a move union officials said Tuesday was an "all-time low" that pushed the sides even further apart.

Management negotiator Richard Ravitch said the move was understandable because no collective bargaining agreement had been reached. The payment of between \$7.8 million was due August 1 and was based on revenue from the All-Star game.

"This is absolutely an all-time low in my understanding of the negotiations in this industry," said Eugene Orza, the No. 2 official of the Major League Baseball Players Association. "We'll have to talk it over with the players immediately. It may be predictable or understandable or go over with the public, but it won't go over with the players. It's one thing to play with the players; it's another to play with their wives and children."

"I think when you're in the midst of collective bargaining and there's no agreement, it's absolutely normal not to make a payment of this nature," Ravitch said.

Under the four-year benefit agreement that expired March 19, owners were required to make \$57m a year in payments to the benefit plan. The remaining money each year is due in November. Orza said that because the All-Star game was played, the August payment was owed to the plan and said the move was "of questionable legality."

Fuhr pushed Tuesday for owners to publicly disclose their finances. Executive council chairman Bud Selig and Ravitch have repeatedly insisted 19 of the 28 teams will lose money this year but say there's no need to publicly release the list because the union has it.

"They don't want to make it public because they know people would discuss it, and there would be a public examination of various clubs and the subsidies they're negotiating with cities, and it wouldn't look good," Fuhr said.

Fuhr has said in recent days that people would be surprised by the clubs on the list of money-losing teams. The union isn't allowed to disclose the list because of confidentiality agreements it signed with management.

England staggers into SA Test

LEEDS (AP) — Weighed down by a ball-tampering controversy involving team captain Mike Atherton and a humiliating defeat at Lord's, England cricketers aren't in the best shape to hit back and beat South Africa at Headingley.

The two teams meet today in the second Test of three and South Africa is confident of following its crushing, 356-run triumph at Lord's last week with another victory that would clinch the series.

Right now, England needs something big from its captain, especially after his controversial behavior at Lord's.

Thought to be the man capable of leading England out of a run of dismal defeats, Atherton was fined £2,000 after he was caught taking dirt he had concealed in his pocket and wiping it onto the ball.

The England captain has maintained he was trying to keep the ball dry in excessively humid conditions. But, in a sport plagued recently by ball-tampering allegations, he admitted he was wrong, not to tell match officials what he had been doing.

The incident, captured on TV, remains fresh in people's minds and Atherton goes into the five-day game at Headingley under attack instead of in a position to lead an England fightback.

It doesn't help England, either, that promising all-rounder Craig White misses not only this game, but the rest of the series and possibly the Winter tour of Australia because of a double stress fracture of his left leg.

The injury was diagnosed on Tuesday and, with England deciding not to call up a replacement, the team will go into the game with six specialist batsmen.

Graham Thorpe, the Surrey left-hander who was surprisingly left off the team for the preceding series against New Zealand, returns to join the first Test lineup of Atherton, Alec Stewart, John Crawley, Graham Gooch and Graeme Hick.

There is speculation that former captain Gooch will open the innings



STILL REELING — England captain Mike Atherton (r), still the center of controversy over ball-tampering accusations, confers with chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth (AP)

with Stewart dropping down as far as five.

Either Surrey's uncapped seam bowler, Joey Benjamin, who could make his debut at age 33, or left-arm spinner Phil Tufnell, will be left off the team.

South African captain Kepler Wessels, who scored a century at Lord's, is expected to line up despite fears early in the week that he had broken his arm.

The South Africans, banned from international cricket for more than two decades during the apartheid era, have said very little about the Atherton controversy. But they are disappointed it took much of the luster from their triumph at Lord's.

"We are here for the first time in 29 years but, when we win a Test, all we hear about is what the England captain had in his pocket," fast bowler Allan Donald said.

Mourning wants revenge at world championship

TORONTO (Reuters) — When the US national basketball team, a collection of 14 NBA stars dubbed Dream Team II, opens play at the world championship today, Alonzo Mourning will be looking for one thing: Revenge.

Mourning, a 6-foot-10 center with the Charlotte Hornets, is the only member of Dream Team II who played on the 1990 world championship squad at which the US managed just a bronze medal. Yugoslavia won the 1990 event and Russia took the silver.

"I wanted to come back after we lost in 1990. I know we had a good enough team to win it, but we just fell short," said Mourning. "1990 was an experience in itself. Right now we have an opportunity to get that revenge."

The US, which has dominated Olympic basketball tournaments, winning 10 of 13 gold medals, has won the world championship titles only twice, in 1986 and 1954.

Most concede that this year's team of NBA professionals will emerge with the gold medal when the 12th world basketball championship concludes on August 14.

Some predict the US squad could outscore opponents by the same lopsided margins as Dream Team I did at the 1992 Olympics.

At Barcelona, Dream Team I, led by now-retired NBA superstars Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson and Larry Bird, outscored their opponents by an average of 43.8 points per game.

"Our goal is to go out there and just kick butt," Dream Team II for-

ward Dominique Wilkins said. Sixteen teams will chase the world title: Brazil, China, Spain and the US in Pool A; Australia, Croatia, Cuba and South Korea in Pool B; Angola, Argentina, Canada and Russia in Pool C; and Egypt, Germany, Greece and Puerto Rico in Pool D.

Notably absent from the tournament are the Lithuanians, 1992 Olympic bronze medalists but losers in the European qualifying tournament.

The US squad tuned up for the world event by beating Germany 114-81 at an exhibition game on July 27 and by beating the US Goodwill Games team 113-75 on Sunday.

Dream Team II coach Don Nelson of the Golden State Warriors scouted the opposition last year by attending the European championships, the basketball tournament of the Americas and the African qualifying tournaments.

Mourning and teammate Reggie Miller, of the Indiana Pacers, expect the US team's stiffest competition to come from Croatia, 1992 Olympic silver medalists.

Croatia's squad includes Chicago Bulls' forward Toni Kukoc, a member of the 1992 Olympic squad who also played for the Yugoslavian team that won the gold medal at the 1990 world championship, along with Boston Celtics forward Dino Radja and ex-Celtic center Stojan Vrankovic.

Miller said the United States is not taking any of its opponents lightly. He reckoned Croatia, Canada and Puerto Rico could also contend for medals.



The national disabled women's basketball team heads for Stoke-on-Mandeville, England to compete in the world championships, which begin on Sunday. The team is composed of nine hoopers from ILAN — Israel Sport Center for the Disabled in Ramat Gan — and one from Beit Hacholim in Afeke. (Front row, from right): Kimmeret Wallach, Ariella Mizan, Ruth Hemi, Rachel Said, Nurit Ya'akov, Hagar Sharon, Naora Even-Zahav, Batya Shviki, Tzipi Rubin and Esther Terry. (Back row, from right): Physical trainer Marcello Dor, technical adviser Arik Ya'acovich, head coach Yossi Amoyal, delegation head Baruch Hagai and Rafi Hayun. (Michal Freyden)

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Eitan competes in Goodwill canoe race

ST. PETERSBURG (AP) — Nevo Eitan, Israel's only representative to the Goodwill Games, came in fourth place in the first heat of the 500-meter canoe race yesterday. He completed the race in one minute 44.01 seconds. Eitan finished behind Norway's Knut Holmann, 1:39.39, the eventual gold medalist; Canada's Renn Crichton, 1:41.73 and Michael Herbert from the US, 1:43.53.

Haifa derby opens hoops State Cup

JOEL GORDIN

THIS most exciting basketball game of the State Cup's first round will be the Haifa derby between Hapoel and second-division Maccabi on August 25, a week before the start of the season.

Other closely contested games should be between Hapoel Holon and Hapoel Afula, who were relegated from the National League last year; and between Hapoel Eilat and Hapoel Nahariya, also sent down.

Last year's semifinals — Maccabi Tel Aviv, Hapoel Tel Aviv, Hapoel Gvat and Hapoel Jerusalem — have first round byes. No two national league teams will match up against each other.

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FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday announced his decision to adopt most of the Fogel Committee recommendations on the sale of agricultural land for residential use, though he will demand some modifications to prevent the buying up of land by speculators.

The land in question includes over one million dunams, worth tens of billions of shekels, leased to kibbutzim, moshavim, citrus growers and companies by the Israel Lands Administration (ILA).

By law, the land belongs to the government, and it can be reclaimed by paying very limited compensation. But the Fogel Committee agreed to compensate farmers with a payment of 25% of the land's value as residential property.

The recommendations after two ILA decisions aimed at increasing available land for housing led farmers to begin selling their land directly to developers.

Both developers and the farmers saw the possibility for making profits on government property beyond anyone's imagination, which created an amazing volume of activity," said Shohat.

This land grab created pressure on planning committees and threatened to create chaos, as no attention was being paid to the infrastructure requirements of the

JOSE ROSENFELD and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

rezoned areas, explained Shohat. According to the recommendations, a national administrative body should be created to rezone the land and to draw up a national development plan.

Shohat recommended that after next year, farmers would receive one percentage point less in compensation every year until it reaches 20% of the land's value. In development zones, however, the compensation will remain at 25%.

In order to speed up the release of land for housing, Shohat is recommending that ILA also sell land that has not gone through the planning and zoning process, with strict requirements placed on developers to apply for rezoning quickly and build on the land within a specified period.

This program would be carried out in addition to the framework of the national administrative body recommended by Fogel.

Shohat proposed that businesses and citrus growers be given half the compensation the farmers receive, while the Fogel Committee did not provide for such compensation.

Shohat said that all of his recommendations were acceptable to Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-

Eliezer, except for his proposal to establish a special committee to review claims of farmers regarding the harm the zoning change would make on their settlement.

Simha Assaf, secretary-general of the Agriculture Center, said the farmers are satisfied with the Treasury decision not to adopt all of the Fogel Committee's proposals but two major issues remain are still in dispute: The compensation rate and timing.

"We do not accept the Finance Minister's decision on the compensation given for changing the designation of land from agriculture to development. We believe the kibbutzim and moshavim, the owners of agricultural land, are entitled to compensation of 40%," he said.

The center also objects to Shohat's decision to carry out the rezoning over a period of five years. The Fogel Committee recommended rezoning the land within a year, while the farmers are demanding a 10-year adjustment period.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will discuss the Fogel Committee proposals with the finance, agriculture, housing and justice ministers on Sunday. Should the sides fail to agree on the proposal, it will be brought up for a vote at the following cabinet meeting, Shohat said.

Likud amends petition against Sheves

EVELYN GORDON

THE Likud yesterday withdrew its request that the High Court of Justice force Prime Minister's Office Director-General Shimon Sheves to resign, so as not to delay its petition to have a criminal investigation opened against him.

According to a recent state comptroller's report, Sheves tried to persuade then police inspector-general Ya'acov Terner to change the composition of the police team investigating former interior minister Aryeh Deri on corruption charges.

Following the report, three groups asked Attorney-General

Michael Ben-Yair to open an investigation against Sheves, on suspicion that he had violated the law against interfering with a judicial proceeding.

When Ben-Yair refused, saying that Sheves had lacked the necessary criminal intent, both Likud central committee member Gil Samsonov and Amitai - Citizens for Good Government petitioned the High Court against this decision.

On Tuesday, Justice Dalia Dorner issued a show-cause order

on Amitai's petition, giving Ben-Yair 45 days to explain why he is not ordering an investigation. Samsonov's petition, however, included a request that Sheves be fired as well as a request to open an investigation against him.

At a hearing yesterday, Dorner said she was willing to issue a show-cause order with regard to the investigation, just as she had for Amitai, but she was not willing to do so with regard to the second request. By law, she cannot issue a show-cause order that covers only

part of a petition. Therefore, she said, if Samsonov canceled the second request, she would issue a show-cause order immediately. Otherwise, the entire petition would be sent on to a three-judge panel, delaying the process considerably. Samsonov therefore decided to cancel the portion of the petition relating to dismissing Sheves. "The main thing is the opening of the investigation," Samsonov said. "We have no interest now in [delaying this] for a secondary issue."



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, sitting outside an IDF communications center north of Tel Aviv, talks to Jordan's King Hussein flying overhead as Chief of General Staff Lt-Gen. Ehud Barak looks on.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FM meets immigrant group

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday took off time from the peace process to hear complaints from immigrants' representatives. "This government promised us that after peace, it would put aliyah at the top of its priorities," Sofia Landvir, head of the Association of Soviet Immigrants, said. "Now there is peace and we want them to keep their electoral promises."

For example, Landvir said that 100,000 immigrants who require public housing had been waiting four years for a response from the Housing Ministry.

"These people can't even eat. How can they buy an apartment?" said Landvir. According to Landvir, Peres said he would meet with the ministers concerned and try to push the issue.

Ancient water system found

Archeologists excavating Tel Beersheba have discovered an underground water system created by diverting underground streams some 3,000 years ago.

The site of the water system, discovered last week, was opened to journalists yesterday. The entrance to the reservoir had been blocked by large stones, apparently after a wall had collapsed. The water from the streams was

collected in several large cisterns to supply water to residents during times of siege.

Hospitalization fees raised again

The Health and Finance ministries have decided to raise the per diem hospitalization fee in the public hospitals by 8.2 percent, bringing this year's fee increases to nearly 40 percent.

Treasury officials said that although this is way above the average inflation rate, it was required by significant increases in costs of wages, medications and technology. Kupat Holim Clalit said the hike will cost it an additional NIS 40 million by the end of this year.

Fact book released

Some 5.33 million people were living in Israel at the beginning of 1994, 4.34 million of them Jews and another 989,000 non-Jews, according to the Government Information Center's book on facts and figures of Israel.

In 1993, 69,000 immigrants arrived in Israel. The total world Jewish population outside Israel at the beginning of 1994 was 8.71 million.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, jack of hearts, seven of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Palestinian workers at St. John's Hospital ask Histadrut's help in wage negotiations

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

PALESTINIAN workers at St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem have asked the Histadrut to help them negotiate a better wage agreement with the hospital's management. They are threatening to impose sanctions up to a general strike should the management refuse to grant them conditions equal to those in other hospitals in the country.

Following the workers' request, the Jerusalem labor council wrote

St. John's management demanding it begin immediate negotiations on a wage agreement comparable to other city hospitals and specifically ensuring the workers' pension terms.

Jerusalem Labor Council spokesman Motke Lipman said the St. John's staff includes some 150 Palestinian workers residing in Jerusalem and the territories, in

addition to a crew of doctors and nurses from England, who enjoy special work conditions and privileges.

Lipman noted this is not the first time Palestinian workers have turned to the Histadrut for help. Recently the Jerusalem Labor Council was asked to intervene in a labor dispute in the city's American Colony Hotel. It negotiated an improved wage agreement including retroactive payments.

Haifa Labor Council to ax 108 workers

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

HAIFA'S new Labor Council secretary Baruch Saltz, 49, Ram, intends to fire one-third of the council's workers - 108 people - and has blocked the council's office phones to outgoing calls.

These decisions were made in an attempt to cut the council's NIS 9.5 million budget deficit, Saltz said yesterday, at the council's first meeting since the Histadrut elections.

Saltz added that no more lunch or travel expenses would be paid without the approval of the chairman of the section in question.

Saltz said he expects Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon to approve an NIS 2 million allocation today, to enable the labor council to continue operations.

Saltz said he hoped that the Histadrut's parliament (executive committee) will approve putting the workers on the firing list out to early pension and giving them improved severance fees.

Clalit's boss decides to stay

JUDY SIEGEL

KUPAT Holim Clalit director-general Avigdor Kaplan last night agreed to withdraw his letter of resignation and to continue in his post. A few months ago, when the extent of the health fund's debts was disclosed, Kaplan tendered a letter of resignation to the Histadrut, saying he could no longer be responsible for its operations.

Kaplan yesterday notified Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat of his change in plans. "In view of your request to rescind my resignation and of the situation of Kupat Holim Clalit, I decided after much hesitation to consent and to remain in my post. I hope that the new recovery plan that will be formulated according to your instructions, and that the aid you grant, will enable me and management to restore the health fund to regular and balanced functioning," Kaplan wrote.

When he had tendered his resignation, some suggested it was because he had openly backed Haim Haberfeld in his race against Ramon for chairman. But in recent weeks, Kaplan reportedly reached an accommodation with Ramon.

Foreign Ministry complains to Canada over refugee status given to Israeli emigrants

BATSHEVA TSUR

ISRAEL has expressed its displeasure and regret to Canada over the granting of refugee status to immigrants from the CIS who hold Israeli citizenship.

In what one official described as "a difficult meeting," Foreign Ministry Deputy Director-General Eitan Bentsur yesterday conveyed this to Canadian ambassador Norman Spector.

Bentsur said the granting of refugee status casts aspersions on Israel, which does not make legal distinctions between citizens on the basis of religion, race or sex. He also pointed to the Herculean feat of having absorbed half a million immigrants over four years.

Noting that Canada's refugee policy was a source of pride, Spector said that nevertheless he would pass on the Israeli message and request an inquiry as to whether the issue could be reexamined as far as Israel is concerned. He pointed out that the board deciding on refugee status is independent and not subject to Canadian governmental control.

"The irony is that former Soviet emigrants from Israel are now the largest group in Canada who have received refugee status on grounds of human rights violations [in Israel]," Zionist Forum head Natan Sharansky said yesterday. "This is an unprecedented case in the relations between two democratic countries."

Some 150 families are believed to have received the special status which entitles them to enlarged financial benefits, and a further 2,000-3,000 requests are said to be pending. In almost all cases, at least one spouse is believed to be non-Jewish.

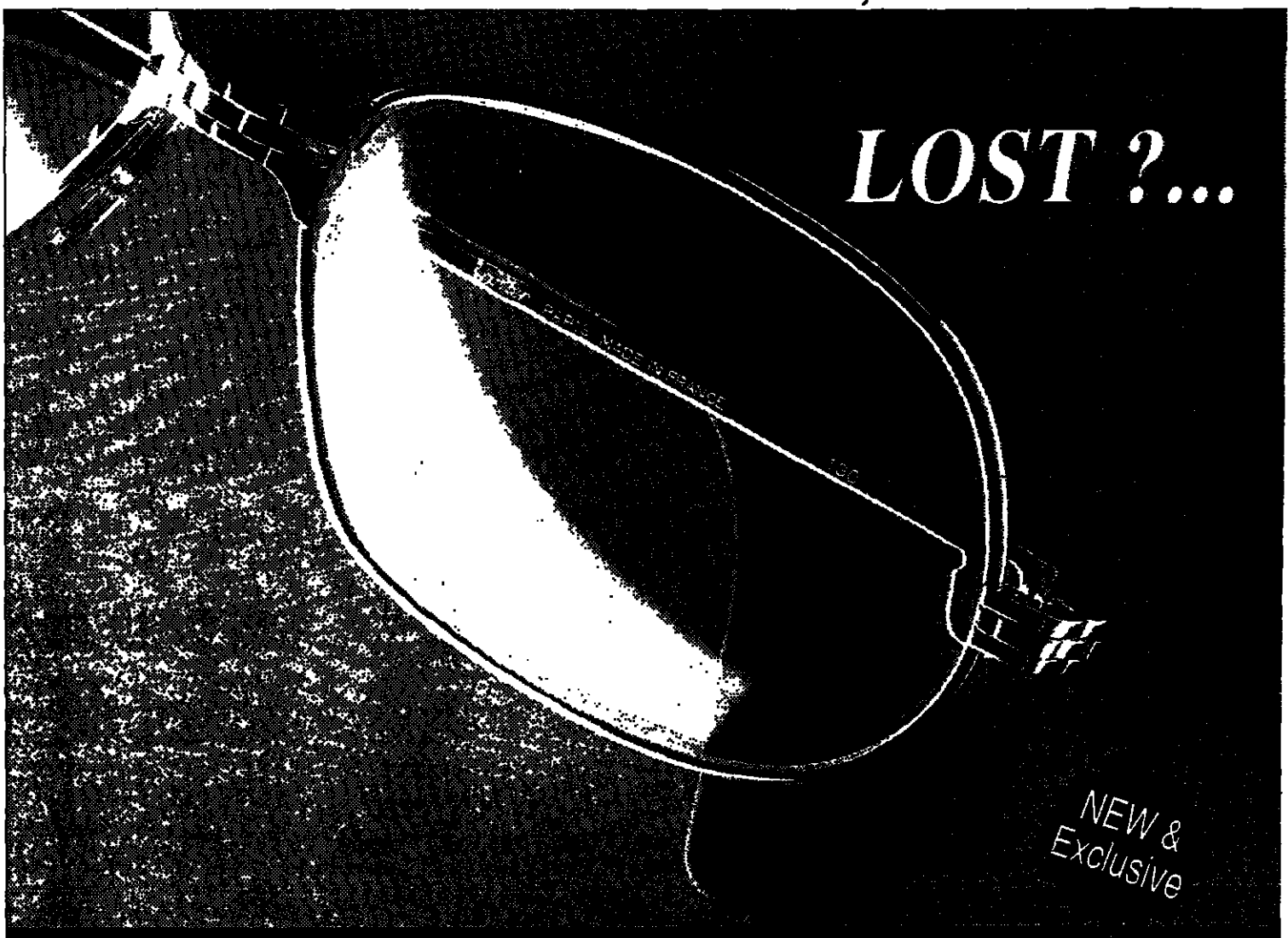
The applications for refugee status are made on an individual basis, but special "offices" in Israel and in Canada are prepared to handle the applications on a business basis. Several of these publish their services in the Russian-language press in Israel.

Jerusalem lawyer Lynda Brayer, who immigrated to Israel from South Africa but converted to Catholicism some five years ago, provides applicants with affidavits in her capacity as Executive Legal Director of the Society of St. Ives, a legal resource center for human rights operated under the auspices of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

In such an affidavit, Brayer writes, inter alia: "Israel is a Jewish state. It is not a democratic state for a heterogeneous population... There are many normal civil benefits such as ownership of land, public education, access to housing, employment and health benefits which are the subject of deep-seated discrimination in the sense that they are not equally available to Jews and non-Jews..."

Brayer yesterday declined to comment on the issue.

Sharansky noted that applicants for refugee status often also included quotes from pre-election speeches by political leaders such as Culture Minister Shulamit Aloni who had accused the previous government of being racist.



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